

MIT's
Oldest and Largest
Newspaper



The Weather
Today: Showers likely, 38°F (3°C)
Tonight: More rain, 40°F (4°C)
Tomorrow: Cloudy, rain, 50°F (10°C)
Details, Page 2

Volume 124, Number 10

Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Friday, March 5, 2004

MIT Sets New Policy For Maternity Leave

By Kathy Dobson
STAFF REPORTER

A new institute-wide childbirth accommodation policy for female graduate students has been developed and will formally become effective in July. Dean of Graduate Students Isaac M. Colbert said.

In an announcement sent out last week, Provost Robert A. Brown and Chancellor Philip L. Clay cited the need for changes in the current institute-wide policy for childbirth, which encourages women students to petition for a medical leave of absence.

A medical leave would retroactively cancel the term, end stipend payment and access to on-campus housing, and may threaten access to MIT health care services. This "penalizes the student and cuts off her access to critical resources just when she needs it most," wrote Brown and Clay.

The new policy allows graduate women students the option of taking "up to eight weeks of Childbirth Accommodation," beginning on a date specified on a petition filled out before childbirth or on the actual date of childbirth. The petition must be approved by the Graduate Students Office and is not granted by the Institute or faculty, said Colbert.

If the student is supported by a

teaching assistant or research assistant appointment, she will receive a stipend paid from the childbirth accommodation insurance pool during her accommodation period. Half of the money in the insurance pool is set aside by the Office of the Provost, while the rest is donated by the schools in proportion to the size of their graduate population, said Michael R. Folkert G, vice president of the Graduate Student Council.

The new policy states that, with approval of the childbirth accommodation petition, students retain access to on-campus medical facilities, and can retain on-campus residence "as appropriate for the specific hall" for the accommodation period.

Although the new policy allows students to "normally...stop the academic and research clocks with regards to assignments due, reports anticipated, or other class and research related requirements," students maintain their full-time status, and the visa status of international students is not affected by the childbirth accommodation period.

The policy states that it will not apply to adoptions "men in support of their wives or partners during childbirth."

Maternity, Page 19

Live Will Headline 2004 Spring Weekend Concert

By Pon-Pon Yeh

Rock band Live will be the main event at MIT's annual Spring Weekend Concert this year, with rap artist Slick Rick as the opening act.

This year's concert will be held on Saturday, April 24, in the John-son Athletic Center.

The concert is open to MIT and 15 other colleges around the area, though the focus is on a "predominant MIT audience" said Jacob A. Wronski G, Spring Weekend Committee co-chair.

Survey helps select bands

A Spring Weekend Committee of about 17 students selected jointly by the Undergraduate Association and the Graduate Students Council has been planning Spring Weekend since fall. The committee "started the selection process with a survey," said Wronski. The survey asked students to rank their music genre preferences.

The 'rock' genre topped the results of the survey with about 40 percent of survey takers indicating it as their favorite, said Wronski. 'Hip-hop' was the second most pre-

ferred genre.

These results were used to make a list of about 40 bands. This list was then narrowed down to five bands based on the Spring Weekend budget and the ability of the name of the band to draw a large enough crowd, Wronski said.

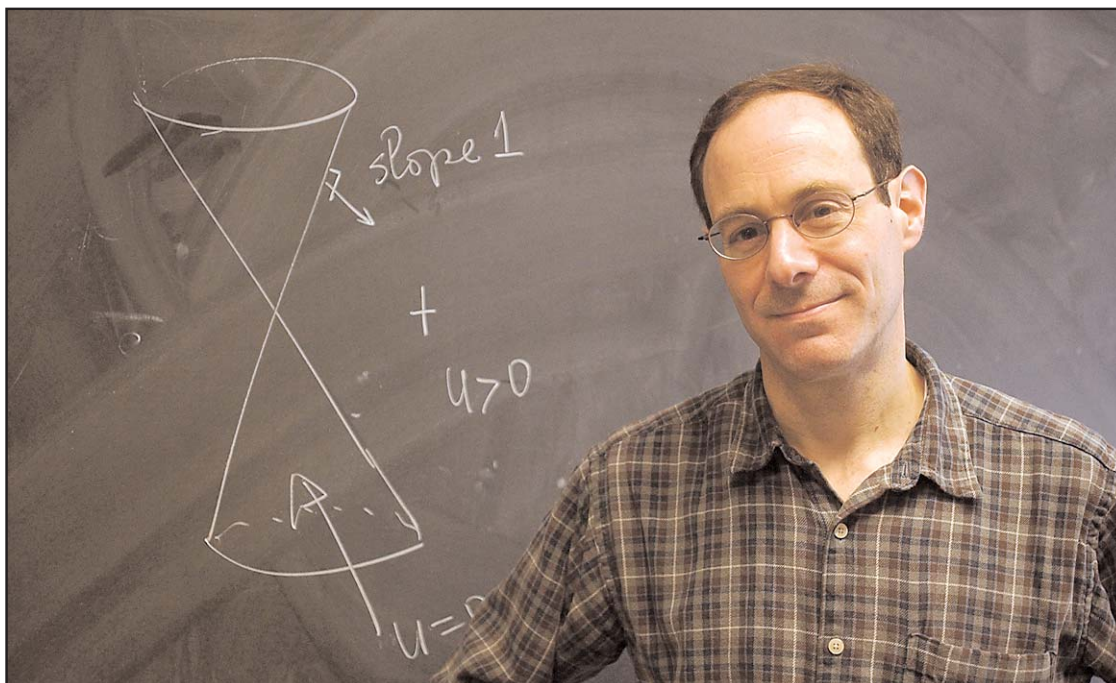
For the opening act, the Spring Weekend Committee preferred a hip hop act or group because they "really wanted to acknowledge that hip-hop was the second most popular genre on the survey" said Wronski.

In addition, hip hop was chosen to offset the predominantly rock music of Live because the committee "wanted to give a balanced show" said committee member Neha R. Bhooshan '04.

According to Bhooshan, the decision to bid for Live was made in January, and confirmed before the end of IAP. Earlier, the committee had put out a bid for the hip hop group Dilated Peoples, but were unable to strike a deal. The bid for Slick Rick went out about two weeks ago, and was confirmed earlier this week.

Spring Weekend, Page 17

Five Professors Named MacVicar Fellows for Devotion to Teaching



WENDY GU—THE TECH

Professor of Mathematics David S. Jerison poses next to his schematic of a partial differential equation (PDE). One of his research interests is the geometric representation of PDEs.

By Kelley Rivoire

Five MIT professors will be recognized today as MacVicar Faculty Fellows for their achievements in undergraduate education.

Professors David L. Darmofal '91 (Aeronautics and Astronautics), Jean E. Jackson (Anthropology), David S. Jerison (Mathematics), Steven B. Leeb '87 (Electrical Engineering and Com-

puter Science), and Anne E.C. McCants (History) will join over 40 of their colleagues as MacVicar Fellows.

The MacVicar Fellows are nominated by a committee of current Fellows, faculty members, and undergraduates.

Fellows chosen for energy, effort

All five professors emphasized their belief in the importance of

MacVicar, Page 21

Mun Death Investigated As Suicide

By Beckett W. Sterner
NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

The body recovered from the Charles River last Saturday was confirmed to be Daniel S. Mun '05 by the Suffolk District Attorney this past Tuesday.

In a press release, the DA stated that "evidence uncovered by state police detectives assigned to the district attorney's office suggests that the manner of death was suicide."

The autopsy established the cause of death as drowning and reported that there was no external trauma on Mun's body.

If the investigation confirms the death as a suicide, it will be the first suicide by an undergraduate at MIT in three years. The last one was that of Julia M. Carpenter '03 in 2001.

Not including Mun, 48 undergraduate and graduate students at MIT have committed suicide in the past 39 years.



JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH

Campaign signs adorn a streetpost across from Lobby 7 on Super Tuesday, the day when ten states held primaries.

A memorial was held this Wednesday for Daniel Mun '05.

Page 12



Colin Quinn and Darell Hammond perform at Kresge.

Page 8

OPINION

Three undergraduates debate the tradition of brass rat redesign.

Page 5

World & Nation	2
Opinion	4
Features	6
Comics	9
Events Calendar	11
Sports	24

WORLD & NATION

Venezuela's Opposition Demands Chavez Recall Referendum

THE NEW YORK TIMES

CARACAS, VENEZUELA

The Venezuelan ambassador to the United Nations announced his resignation Thursday, saying he could no longer support a government he accused of violating democratic principles and human rights.

Milos Alcalay's announcement in New York energized foes of President Hugo Chavez, who have protested and called for international pressure after electoral authorities sidelined a referendum on recalling Chavez from office.

The opposition accuses National Guard troops of beating and detaining demonstrators who violently protested the National Electoral Council's ruling on Tuesday that the opposition had not collected enough signatures to force a referendum. Seven people have been killed since last Friday, the latest on Thursday in the western town of Machiques.

"Today, human rights in my country, I consider, are being violated," Alcalay told reporters at the United Nations.

The Organization of American States and Atlanta-based Carter Center, monitors of the signature collection, have criticized the council's decision. The opposition needed 2.4 million signatures to force a referendum but only 1.8 million were validated.

Three American Muslims Guilty Of Trying To Aid Pakistani Terrorists

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

In a victory for the Bush administration's campaign to root out home-grown terrorism, a federal judge convicted three American Muslims on Thursday of conspiring to help a Pakistani group wage "violent jihad" against Indian forces in Kashmir and possibly U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

Federal prosecutors had portrayed the men, two of them U.S.-born converts and one a Pakistani immigrant, as radical Muslims who had prepared to fight for Islamic causes overseas by acquiring weapons and playing paintball in Virginia, as well as training at a camp for mujahadeen fighters in Pakistan.

The defense had disputed that depiction, arguing the men were moderate Muslims who played paintball purely for fun and never intended to hurt Americans. They asserted the prosecution had been driven by anti-Muslim bias.

Elections Panel Considers More Rules To Curb Soft Money

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Federal Election Commission proposed new rules on Thursday that could severely curtail the work of organizations established to get around fund-raising restrictions in the new campaign finance law.

The groups, known as "527 committees" for the section of the tax code that created them, are able to raise and spend unlimited "soft money" contributions to broadcast television commercials and turn out voters.

The proposed rules drew protests from both Republican and Democratic groups, though it is the Democrats who may be most affected because they have turned most heavily to these organizations as a way to compete against the vast fund-raising advantage of President Bush and the Republican Party.

Several of these groups have already played roles in the current presidential race and were specifically established to circumvent the new McCain-Feingold campaign finance law. The law bars the national political parties themselves from raising such large dollar donations.

U.S. Says Russian Engineers Aided Iraq's Missile Program

By James Risen

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

A group of Russian engineers secretly aided Saddam Hussein's long-range ballistic missile program, providing technical assistance for prohibited Iraqi weapons projects even in the years just before the war that ousted him from power, American government officials say.

Iraqis who were involved in the missile work told American investigators that the technicians had not been working for the Russian government, but for a private company. But any such work on Iraq's banned missiles would have violated U.N. sanctions, even as the U.N. Security Council sought to enforce them.

Although Iraq ultimately failed to develop and produce long-range ballistic missiles and though even its permitted short-range missile projects were fraught with problems, its missile program is now seen as the main prohibited weapons effort that Iraq continued right up until the war was imminent.

After the first Persian Gulf war in 1991, Iraq was allowed only to keep crude missiles that could travel up to 150 kilometers, or about 90

miles, but the Russian engineers were assisting Baghdad's secret efforts illegally to develop longer-range missiles, according to the American officials.

Since the invasion in March, American investigators have discovered that the Russian engineers had worked on the Iraqi program both in Moscow and in Baghdad, and that some of them were in the Iraqi capital as recently as 2001, according to people familiar with the intelligence on the matter.

Because some of the Russian experts were said to have formerly worked for one of Russia's aerospace design centers, which remains closely associated with the state, their work for Iraq has raised questions in Washington about whether Russian government officials knew of their involvement in forbidden missile programs. "Did the Russians really not know what they were doing?" asked one person familiar with the U.S. intelligence reports.

"The U.S. has not presented any evidence of Russian involvement," said Yevgeny Khorishko, a spokesman for the Russian Embassy.

Russia and the former Soviet

Union were among Iraq's main suppliers of arms for decades before Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, leading to the first gulf war.

The Bush administration has previously said it had uncovered evidence that Iraq had unsuccessfully sought help from North Korea for its missile program, but had not disclosed the evidence that Iraq had also received Russian technical support.

CIA and White House officials refused to comment on the matter, and people familiar with the intelligence say they believe that the administration has been reluctant to reveal what it knows about Moscow's involvement in order to avoid harming relations with President Vladimir V. Putin.

"They are hyper-cautious about confronting Putin on this," complained one intelligence source.

In his public testimony last week about the worldwide threats facing the United States, George J. Tenet, the director of central intelligence, restated Washington's longstanding concerns about Russia's controls over its missile and weapons technology, without mentioning the evidence of missile support for the Saddam government.

'Aristide May Remain' Central African Republic Officials Say

By Michael Wines

THE NEW YORK TIMES

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

After days of undisguised hints that it would welcome the early departure of the exiled Haitian leader Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the Central African Republic reversed course on Thursday and indicated that Aristide could remain there if he chose.

Whether Aristide chose to remain was not clear. Since he declared on Monday that he had been ousted from Haiti's presidency by the United States — a claim American officials have vigorously denied — Aristide has remained in a villa at the presidential compound in Bangui, the republic's capital.

Government officials say Aristide is free to move outside the compound if he wishes, but they have told news agencies that he prefers to remain in his villa, reading and sleeping.

Word that Aristide was free to stay in Bangui came Thursday afternoon from the government's communications minister, Lt. Col. Parfait Mbaye, in an interview with The Associated Press.

"I can't say definitively if Aristide will stay here or if he'll go," Mbaye was quoted as saying, "but if he asks us, we won't refuse him."

Aristide's eventual whereabouts have been a topic of hot speculation in Bangui and elsewhere since he fled Haiti on Sunday, under both American and French pressure, in the face of an advancing rebel army

intent on overthrowing him.

News reports have stated that Aristide would prefer to spend his exile in South Africa, and the South African government initially said that it would have no problem accommodating him. South Africa's president, Thabo Mbeki, a supporter of Aristide's, was the only global leader to attend the bicentennial celebration in January honoring Haiti's independence from France.

But with national elections barely five weeks away, Mbeki's government has come under fierce criticism from opposition parties for its offer to give Aristide refuge. And talks on his resettlement here appear to have stalled at the informal stage.

WEATHER

Boston Weather and ENSO

By Vikram Khade

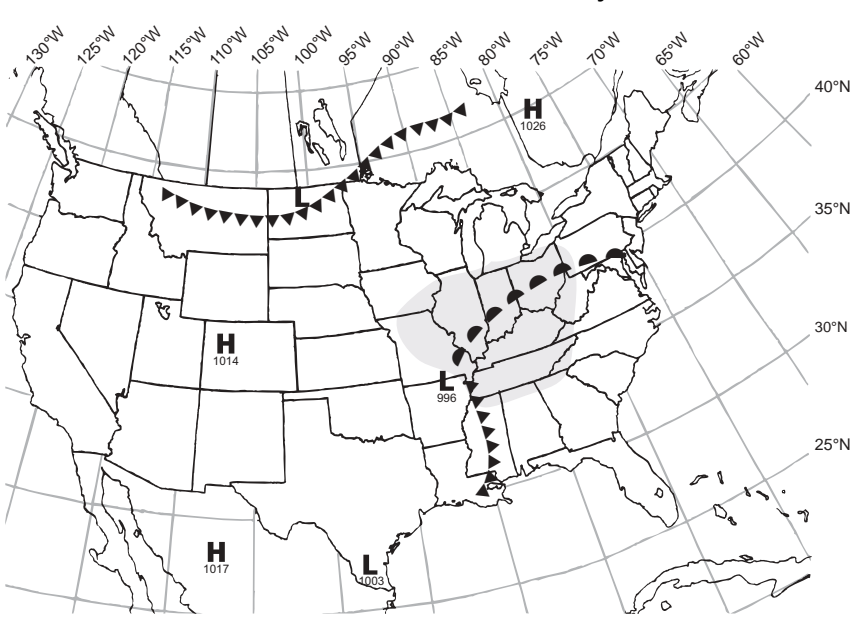
The warming up of eastern equatorial pacific ocean accompanied by a corresponding cooling in the western Pacific is termed the El Niño (Christ child in Spanish) phenomenon. The El Niño (EN) event occurs about every two to seven years with an average interval of 40 months and lasts for about eight to 12 months. EN events are accompanied by an increase in surface atmospheric pressure over the western Pacific/Indian ocean and a corresponding decrease in the eastern Pacific. This is termed the Southern Oscillation (SO). The EN and SO are considered to be the atmospheric and oceanic components respectively of the same climate phenomenon and are collectively referred to as ENSO.

Is Boston weather affected by El Nino? An analysis published on the Web (<http://www.erh.noaa.gov/box/effects.htm>) claims that it does. This study concludes that the temperature in Boston averages about several tenths of a degree Fahrenheit warmer in a year following the onset of an El Niño event than that following the onset of a La Niña event. On an average the warmest temperature occurs about four months after the onset of the El Niño event.

Extended Forecast

Today: Showers likely. Highs around 42°F (5°C), lows near 35°F (2°C).
Tonight: Rain quite likely with highs around 40°F (4°C).
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy, mild showers likely. Highs near 60°F (16°C), lows around 40°F (4°C).
Tomorrow night: Partly cloudy with lows around lower 30°F (-1°C).
Sunday: Partly cloudy. 35°F (2°C).
Monday: Chance of rain. Highs near 40°F (4°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Standard Time, Friday, March 5, 2004



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Rain	Thunderstorm
Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	
		Heavy	

Compiled by MIT
Meteorology Staff
and The Tech

Republican Aides Read, Copied Democrats' Files, Report Says

By Neil A. Lewis
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

For 18 months, at least two Republican Senate staff aides engaged in unauthorized and possibly illegal spying by reading Democratic strategy memorandums on a Senate computer system, according to a report released on Thursday by the Senate sergeant-at-arms.

The 65-page report concluded that the two Republican staff aides, both of whom have since departed, improperly read, downloaded and printed as many as 4,670 files concerning the Democrats' strategy in opposing many of President Bush's judicial nominees. The report of an investigation undertaken at the request of the Senate Judiciary Committee suggested that many other Republican staff aides may have been involved in trafficking in the purloined documents.

"I am mortified that this improper, unethical and simply unacceptable breach of confidential files occurred," Sen. Orrin G. Hatch, R-

Utah, who is the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, told reporters. "There is no excuse that can justify these improper actions."

Sen. Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont, the committee's ranking Democrat, said, "This report indisputably shows that this secret surveillance was calculated, systematic and sweeping in its scope." He added, "It is not difficult to conclude that this was criminal behavior."

The report was supposed to be released with the names of people involved redacted, but reporters were mistakenly given a copy with the names included. The two former Republican staff aides were identified as Manuel C. Miranda, who had already been named as a central figure in the investigation, and Jason Lundell, whose name had not previously been known.

Investigators said that an inexperienced computer coordinator did not adequately make files inaccessible and that Lundell observed the coordinator opening files with a few key strokes and then copied what he

had done. For the next 18 months, the report said, Lundell supplied documents to Miranda after accessing the files of staff aides for Democratic Sens. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, Richard J. Durbin of Illinois, Joseph R. Biden of Delaware, Dianne Feinstein of California, Russell Feingold of Wisconsin and Leahy. The largest share was from Durbin's office.

Some information sought by Miranda and provided by Lundell, according to the report, was about how Democrats would question some nominees. Leahy wrote to Alberto R. Gonzales, the White House counsel, asking if his office received any of the stolen information.

In response, Gonzales offered a denial that was less than categorical, saying: "I am not aware of any credible allegation of White House involvement in this matter. Consequently, there has been no White House investigation or effort to determine whether anyone at the White House was aware of or involved in these activities."

Springfield, Mass. Bishop Accused Of Sexually Abusing Two Children

By Pam Belluck
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BOSTON

A district attorney in Springfield, Mass., said Thursday he would present a grand jury with accusations that Bishop Thomas L. Dupre of Springfield abused two boys when he was a parish priest.

An indictment by the grand jury would make Dupre the first Roman Catholic bishop in the United States to be criminally charged with sexually abusing children, according to advocates for people who have been abused by priests.

At least four bishops have been forced to resign over sex abuse accusations since the clergy sex abuse scandal erupted two years ago. And at least two grand juries have investigated whether bishops should be held criminally liable for failing to respond to abuse complaints about priests in their dioceses, though no charges were brought. But no American bishop has faced a criminal charge that he himself was abusive, said David Clohessy, director of the Survivors Network of Those Abused by Priests.

Dupre, 70, said on Feb. 11 that he was retiring for health reasons. The move came a day after The

Republican newspaper in Springfield confronted Dupre with accusations that he had abused the two boys, beginning in the 1970s.

A lawyer for Dupre, Michael Jennings, did not respond to a phone message left Thursday afternoon. A spokesman for the Springfield Diocese, Mark Dupont, issued a statement saying that the diocese would continue to cooperate with investigators. Dupre has not commented on the allegations since they became public.

A lawyer for Dupre's accusers, Roderick MacLeish Jr., said both had been altar boys at a parish in western Massachusetts. MacLeish said Dupre molested one of the boys starting when he was 12, soon after the boy arrived in 1975 as a refugee from another country. Two years later, that boy introduced Dupre to a 14-year-old friend. MacLeish said Dupre raped both boys. He said the bishop sometimes molested them at the same time.

MacLeish said Dupre also bought the boys pornography, provided them with alcohol before sexual encounters and took the boys to other states and Canada. He said Dupre molested the first boy until he was 17, and the second until he was 20, and continued to initiate occa-

sional sexual conduct with them into their 30s.

MacLeish said that Dupre contacted the men before he was named auxiliary bishop of the Springfield Diocese in 1990, and again when he was named bishop in 1995, and asked them not to publicize his conduct. MacLeish said Dupre sent letters and other correspondence to the men, and provided one with a "small amount" of money for therapy.

"My clients in no way tried to extort the bishop," MacLeish said. "They felt for a long period of time that he genuinely respected and loved them."

MacLeish said one of his clients came forward after being dismayed to hear Dupre discussing same-sex marriage and saying that the church had the right to sanction people's sex lives. The other client had met with Dupre at a restaurant in January, thinking it would be cathartic, but was disappointed that while the bishop apologized, he also asked for continued silence, MacLeish said.

On Thursday, William M. Bennett, the district attorney of Hampden County, said in a statement that he had "determined that there is probable cause to support these allegations."

German Court Overturns Conviction, Sets New Trial For Sept. 11 Suspect

By Desmond Butler
THE NEW YORK TIMES

KARLSRUHE, GERMANY

A German appeals court ordered a retrial Thursday for Mounir el-Motassadeq, the only person successfully prosecuted for involvement in the Sept. 11 attacks.

Complaining that crucial evidence had been withheld by the German and U.S. authorities, a five-judge panel threw out the year-old conviction of Motassadeq and sent the case back to the lower court in Hamburg, which had sentenced him to 15 years in prison on more than 3,000 counts of accessory to murder.

The presiding judge, Klaus Tolksdorf, said Motassadeq, a Moroccan, was denied a fair trial because the United States refused to allow testimony by Ramzi Binalshibh, a suspect in U.S. captivity who is believed to have played a central role in the Sept. 11 plot.

The decision is the second setback in recent weeks for German

prosecutors, whose case against Abdelghani Mzoudi, a friend of Motassadeq tried on similar charges, collapsed last month over the same issue.

It suggests that it will be impossible to convict either Motassadeq or Mzoudi unless the United States makes Binalshibh or transcripts of his testimony available to the German courts.

Similar issues are threatening to derail the prosecution in the United States of Zacarias Moussaoui, a French citizen who is the only person facing trial in a U.S. court in connection with the Sept. 11 attacks.

A federal appeals judge in Virginia threw out much of the case against Moussaoui last year and barred the use of the death penalty after the Bush administration refused to provide the defendant with access to captured al-Qaida prisoners who might have bolstered his defense. Once again it was Binalshibh who figured most promi-

nently.

The Justice Department has appealed the judge's ruling in Moussaoui's case. A decision is pending from a federal appeals court in Richmond, Va.

A spokesman for the U.S. Justice Department said that Thursday's decision was an internal matter for Germany. "We will continue to cooperate to the fullest extent possible with Germany in the fight against our common foe, the terrorists," a department spokesman, Mark Corallo, said, according to The Associated Press.

Tolksdorf said that, under German law, all evidence must be made available whenever possible and that the justice system could not bend to accommodate security concerns stemming from international efforts to fight terrorism.

"We cannot abandon the rule of law," he told the court. "That would be the beginning of a fatal development and ultimately a victory for the terrorists."

Facing Pressure, China Releases Pro-Democracy Protester

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING

Under international pressure for its human rights record, the Chinese government released a prominent, pro-democracy dissident on Thursday, the second political prisoner to be set free in just over a week, a human rights group said.

The dissident, Wang Youcai, 37, was scheduled to arrive in San Francisco later in the day on a flight from China, after leaving a prison in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou. The Dui Hua Foundation, a San Francisco-based human rights group that helped negotiate Wang's release, said he would receive medical attention in the United State for bronchial problems and other illnesses.

In 1998, Wang was sentenced to 11 years in prison on subversion charges after he and two other dissidents founded the China Democracy Party, a direct challenge to the authoritarian Communist Party. Wang had previously served almost two years in prison for his role in the 1989 Tiananmen Square protests.

The timing of Wang's release, which came five years early, suggests a continuing effort by the Communist Party to curry favor with the United States and to repair its international reputation on human rights. Last week, the State Department used its annual human rights report to criticize China on a range of human rights issues.

China's human rights record is now also an issue before the European Union, where several countries are resisting efforts by France to lift a ban on arms sales. And China could also come under criticism when the U.N. Human Rights Commission holds its annual meeting later this month.

Rover Finds Water on Mars

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

HOUSTON

Scientists declared new evidence on Tuesday that life-sustaining water once pooled around an ancient Martian rock formation, which is now under scrutiny by one of the twin NASA robotic rovers.

The evidence, gathered by the rover Opportunity, increases the prospect that the planet harbored life in a warmer, wetter past.

"We believe at this place on Mars, for some period in time, it was a habitable environment. This was the kind of place that would have been suitable for life," said Cornell University astronomer Steve Squyres, who serves as the principal investigator for NASA's Spirit and Opportunity rover missions.

"That does not mean life was there. We don't know that, but this was a habitable place on Mars at one point in time."

Opportunity's findings are the first to combine close-up images from the ground with mineral and chemical analyses of the rocks and soil to reveal the fingerprint of flowing water.

The findings on the surface mesh with imagery gathered by cameras on spacecraft flying over the planet. Those images reveal channel-like features winding through the rugged terrain, watersheds and hints of shorelines.

Theorists believe the water that once flowed on Mars disappeared from the surface in response to unexplained climate changes. Some of the moisture evaporated into the thin atmosphere of Mars, but much of it may have remained underground, where it is frozen among the subsoil or ponded in vast subterranean reservoirs.

U.S. Households Rack Up Debt At Fastest Pace Since 1987

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Federal Reserve reported Thursday that the nation's debt, including both household and government borrowing, grew last year at a pace not seen since the late 1980s.

According to the quarterly federal funds report, the total national debt, excluding the obligations of banks and other financial institutions, grew by 8.1 percent last year, its fastest pace since 1988.

Households threw caution to the wind, mortgaging and re-mortgaging their homes and expanding their debt by 10.4 percent, the biggest percentage gain since 1987. Federal government borrowing expanded by 10.9 percent, the fastest rate since 1992. Only businesses pulled back. Still hobbled by credit overhangs from the investment boom of the late 1990s, corporate borrowing inched ahead by 3 percent.

Overall, the nation's debt grew by some \$1.7 trillion last year to \$22.4 trillion, the Fed said. The federal government accounted for about 18 percent of the total, local governments for roughly 7 percent, households for 42 percent and businesses for 33 percent.

Creditors abroad financed about a third of the year's borrowing, equivalent to about 5 percent of the nation's total output of products and services.

Committees Propose Trims In Bush's Defense Budget

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

The Senate Budget Committee voted Thursday night to shave \$7 billion in defense spending off President Bush's request, even as lawmakers acknowledged there would be heavy pressure to add the money back when the full Senate takes up the matter next week.

Sen. Don Nickles, R-Okla., the budget committee chairman and author of the resolution approved in a 12-10 party-line vote, acknowledged that the final budget Congress produces may come "very close" to giving Bush his entire request for \$421 billion in military spending.

"My guess is there are going to be some adjustments," Nickles said.

Also, in the House on Thursday, the budget committee chairman, Jim Nussle, came under growing pressure to back off a proposed \$2 billion reduction in the White House request for military spending.

However, some Republicans said they remain concerned about the size of both the deficit and Bush's military request. The \$20 billion increase called for in Nickles' resolution is "enough to adequately fund defense," said Sen. Judd Gregg, R-N.H.

OPINION



Chairman
Hangyul Chung '05

Editor in Chief
Brian Loux '04

Business Manager
Roy K. Esaki '04

Managing Editor
David Carpenter '05

NEWS STAFF

News and Features Director: Beckett W. Sterner '06; **News Editors:** Kathy Lin '06, Marissa Vogt '06, Jenny Zhang '06; **Associate Editors:** Waseem S. Daher '07, Gireeja V. Ranade '07, Julián E. Villarreal '07; **Staff:** Kathy Dobson G, Jeffrey Greenbaum '04, Eun J. Lee '04, Michael E. Rolish '04, Jay K. Cameron '05, Christine Fry '05, Sam Hwang '05, Issel Anne L. Lim '05, Jessica A. Zaman '05, Brian C. Keegan '06, Lauren E. LeBon '06, Jennifer Wong '06, Ray C. He '07, Tongyan Lin '07; **Meteorologists:** Samantha L. H. Hess G, Robert Lindsay Korty G, Greg Lawson G, Nikki Privé G, William Ramstrom G, Michael J. Ring G.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Editors: Andrew Mamo '04, Sie Hendrata Dharmawan '05, Tiffany Dohzen '06; **Associate Editor:** Nicholas R. Hoff '05; **Staff:** Joel C. Corbo '04, Joy Forsythe '04, Kevin Chen '05, Albert Leung '06, Jolinta Lin '06, Jonathan Reinharth '06, Jennifer Huang '07, Yaser M. Khan '07, Y. Grace Lin '07, EunMee Yang '07, Sylvia Yang '07.

OPINION STAFF

Editor: Vivek Rao '05; **Columnist:** Andrew C. Thomas '04; **Staff:** Basil Enwegbara SM '01, Gretchen K. Aleks '04, Ken Nesmith '04, Atif Z. Qadir '04, W. Victoria Lee '06, Daniel Barclay '07, Ruth Miller '07, Chen Zhao '07.

SPORTS STAFF

Editor: Phil Janowicz '05, Brian Chase '06; **Staff:** Yong-yi Zhu '06.

ARTS STAFF

Editors: Christine R. Fry '05, Amy Lee '06; **Associate Editor:** Kevin G. Der '06; **Staff:** Bogdan Fedeles G, Ruby Lam G, Sonja Sharpe G, Fred Choi '02, Chikako Sassa '02, Jed Horne '04, Pey-Hua Hwang '04, Josiah Q. Seale '04, Petar Simich '04.

PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Editors: Peter R. Russo '02, Brian Hemond '04, Jina Kim '06; **Associate Editors:** Daniel Bersak '02, Jonathan T. Wang '05; **Staff:** Marcus Dahlem G, Wendy Gu G, Stanley Hu '00, Scott Johnston '03, Miguel A. Calles '04, Jimmy Cheung '04, Ben Gallup '04, Dmitry Portnyagin '04, Hassen Abdu '06, Matt D. Brown '06, John M. Cloutier '06, Grant Jordan '06, Stephanie Lee '06, Edward Platt '06, Omoleye Roberts '06, Rene Chen '07.

FEATURES STAFF

Editor: Akshay Patil '04; **Associate Editors:** Tiffany Kosolcharoen '06; **Columnists:** Bruce Wu G, Kailas Narendran '01, Ian Ybarra '04, Mark Liao '06, Danchai Mekadenaumporn '05, Alex Nelson '06; **Cartoonists:** Jason Burns G, Jumaane Jeffries '02, Sergei R. Guma '04, Sean Liu '04, Jennifer Peng '05, Nancy Phan '05, Qian Wang '05.

BUSINESS STAFF

Operations Manager: Lauren W. Leung '07; **Staff:** Jyoti R. Tibrewala '04, Lynn K. Kamimoto '05, Chris Ruggiero '07.

TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Staff: Frank Dabek G, Roshan Baliga '03, Daniel Leeds '05, Lisa Wray '07.

EDITORS AT LARGE

Senior Editors: Satwiksai Seshasai G, Keith J. Winstein G, Jennifer Krishnan '04; **Contributing Editors:** Jeremy Baskin '04, Devdoot Majumdar '04.

ADVISORY BOARD

Peter Peckarsky '72, Paul E. Schindler, Jr. '74, V. Michael Bove '83, Barry Surman '84, Robert E. Malchman '85, Deborah A. Levinson '91, Jonathan Richmond PhD '91, Saul Blumenthal '98, Joseph Dieckhans '00, Ryan Ochylski '01, Rima Amaout '02, Eric J. Cholankeril '02, Ian Lai '02, B. D. Colen.

OMBUDSMAN

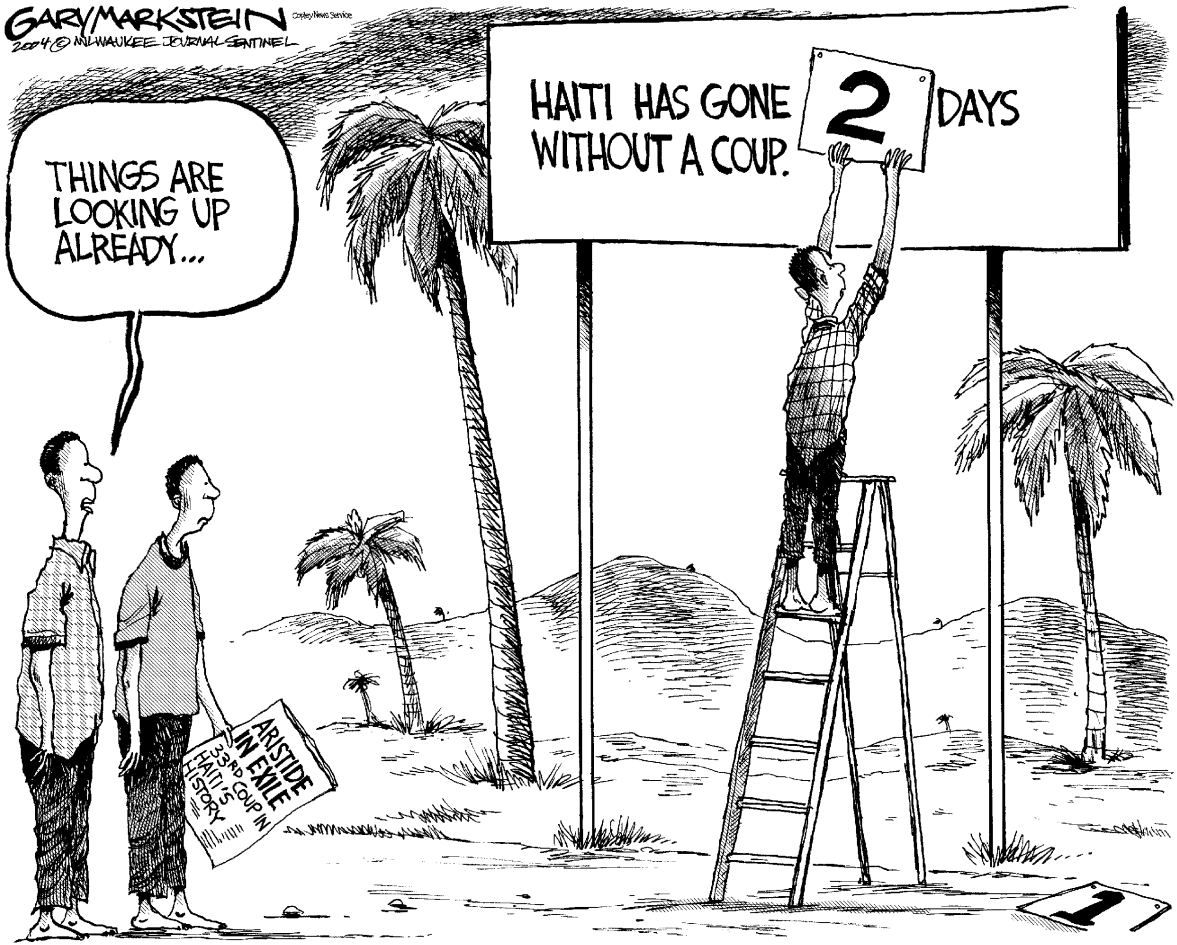
John A. Hawkinson.

PRODUCTION STAFF FOR THIS ISSUE

Editors: Andrew Mamo '04, Tiffany Dohzen '06; **Staff:** EunMee Yang '07.

The Tech (ISSN 0148-9607) is published on Tuesdays and Fridays during the academic year (except during MIT vacations), Wednesdays during January and monthly during the summer for \$45.00 per year Third Class by The Tech, Room W20-483, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02139. Third Class postage paid at Boston, Mass. Permit No. 1. POSTMASTER: Please send all address changes to our mailing address: The Tech, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029. Telephone: (617) 253-1541; editorial: (617) 258-8329; business: (617) 258-8226; facsimile. Advertising, subscription, and reprinting rates available. Entire contents © 2004 The Tech. Printed on recycled paper by Charles River Publishing.

GARY/MARKSTEIN
2004 © MILWAUKEE JOURNAL SENTINEL



A Symbol of the MIT Experience

Rose Grabowski

It is most definitely the nature of MIT students to complain. Constantly. About their classes, their lack of sleep, their pset that only has two questions but parts (a) through (m) on each, their annoying roommate, and their acceptance letter to a state school that they should have taken a little more seriously.

It seems that with each year here, undergraduates become more and more entrenched in this spiral of self-pity and disgust at their lives. But really there are a few milestones within those four years that seem to keep us sane and above water. One is graduation and finally being done with this place. The other is getting your brass rat.

The brass rat is a symbol of what you have accomplished so far, what you have to look forward to, and what you will accomplish when you leave campus. When you are a freshman, you look with envy to the upperclassmen's fingers wrapped in shiny yellow. You know that you've got a long road ahead to finishing your turn in the Institute, but there's a concrete item and experience to look forward to, to keep you plugging away at your work day in and day out.

As a sophomore, you whisper with anticipation to your classmates about what will be on your year's design — man? woman? IHTFP? Will the beaver look happy? sad? aroused? This anticipation is culminated at ring premiere, where 700 fellow second years cram into Walker to finally see the design revealed.

Not everyone is happy, of course. Some will like the seal, some will like the beaver, some will hate the skylines, some will detest the details or the exact interpretation of each little symbol, and others may have the exact opposite opinion on each of these counts. Every year this has happened and every year it will continue. But isn't it amazing that those strong feelings exist, that people actually *care* that much about the rat to spend hours talking about it with their friends, send around e-mails discussing the issues, and create Web sites to gauge opinion? Isn't that a huge testament to how integral the brass rat is to our MIT undergraduate experience?

And then ring delivery comes and all those issues and concerns are forgotten. Twenty-year-old nerds are turned into giddy school children as they race in line to receive a tiny black box with a big chunk of gold inside. The sense of accomplishment is vibrant in the air. From then on, each student with that shiny new brass rat feels an even closer connection with the Institute.

Then, after getting their rings, these students progress through the rest of their four years looking for employment — and everyone has heard at least one story of a recruiter shaking someone's hand, turning it over, seeing the brass rat, and being noticeably impressed. My

own father was told "you've got the job" as soon as one interviewer saw his ring.

But job searches are not the only places it comes in handy — in airports, at dinners, in the park, you will periodically be stopped by someone who notices your rat and either went to MIT or holds a great deal of respect for our institution. The MIT brass rat is the most recognized college ring in the world. No other school has this distinctive shape and design. The pride and achievement associated with it only furthers the value of our ring tradition.

Some argue that the brass rat is really just a tool for corporations to take our money. "Art-Carved is making a *killing* with these rings." Yeah, right. A simple calculation: a 14K medium-sized ring costs \$363 this year. Take away the 7.5 percent licensing fee that MIT charges, \$50 per ring in marketing costs (this goes directly to the RingComm budget for premiere, delivery, etc.) and the cost of the pure gold, about \$122. This leaves ArtCarved with about \$160, and the costs of metal refinement, manufacturing, design, sales, repair, and warranty haven't even been taken into account. It's likely they barely even come out ahead. With siladium rings, as soon as you take out the licensing and marketing fees from the \$55 cost of the ring, they are already negative, not even counting the metal or any other costs. Consider as well that the Harvard ring costs an average of about \$200 more than ours. The only reason ArtCarved or any other company even wants to make our ring is for the huge prestige in their business of saying that they make the MIT brass rat.

Last weekend my older sister Holly came into town with her fiancé. As we sat to lunch at a typical Chinatown eatery, she looked down at her left hand with a deep sigh. The diamond on her finger is quite large, and she smiled thoughtfully as she contemplated through love-abated, half-closed eyes. Holly said to me, "You know, I never thought I would want a big diamond. Or even a diamond at all." Holly had spent a year and a half with no home, traveling as a nomad all over the world, all of her belongings on her back, before she became a yoga instructor in Seattle. I hadn't thought she would want a diamond, either. "But, you know, when he offered me this, I really understood why people like big engagement rings. It isn't to be showy to other people, to shove it in their faces. It's because when I glance around the room the sparkle of the diamond catches my eye, and it reminds me of my hunny. It is a constant reminder of his love for me and my love for him, our too brief past and our wonderful future." We may not "love" MIT, let alone call it our "hunny," but the brass rat is really a symbol of the huge feat we have accomplished. It is something that will be a constant reminder of how strong each of us really is.

The Fraudulent Ring Tradition

Devdoot Majumdar

There are things I don't like, and then there are things I hate.

I don't like the UA — it's never done a damned thing for me, but at least the kids are well-intentioned with their flag debates and town hall meetings.

I don't like *The Tech* — we're basically a lifeless group of "writers" with aimless opinions on everything, but still, the campus needs a newspaper.

But what I *hate* — more irritating than a sermon from the alcohol dean, more shameless than "Trump Ice," more inane than making a movie in Aramaic — is the annual ring committee power trip and the brass turd that it excretes.

I was recently at a meeting, where the class councils from 2005, 2006, and 2007 were also present. Frankly, the leaders of those classes were all possessed with the notion that their voices and revolutionary ideas *needed* to be heard.

Every year, the brass rat is designed by these people. RingComm is picked by these people, populated by more of these people, and yet the class is still supposed to enjoy what these crafters of bad symbolism create?

What I hate — more irritating than a sermon from the alcohol dean, more shameless than "Trump Ice," more inane than making a movie in Aramaic — is the annual RingComm power trip and the brass turd that it excretes.

and falsely sentimental. The ring's attempt at sentimentality (twin towers, end of Rush, etc.) is worse than a Trent Lott apology. It's just a poor attempt to sell rings, which brings me to the final point.

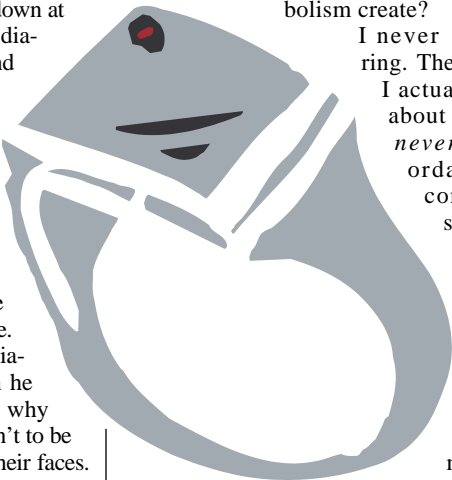
The job of RingComm is to make money for the company that sells the rings. It's a purely commercial endeavor, and they get a \$50,000 budget to advertise a ring with events like the ring cruise or the ring premiere. As a result, close to 1,000 students shell out \$300 each to buy their lucrative finger-turd.

I think of the UA types who feel so special about themselves when they get to meet Colin Quinn, Margaret Cho, Sugar Ray, or Jurassic 5. And then I think of the kids on RingComm, who must feel so great about themselves for telling an artist what arcane symbols (or greek letters) to hide in a ring shank. I'm embarrassed that I even know what a shank is. And however cool these kids end up feeling about themselves for the ring they help design, all they're doing is generating extraordinary revenue for a company like Jostens or Art-Carved.

My critics will say that the ring cruise is an MIT tradition that brings the class together. However empty and commercial, it should be carried on because it's the only time before graduation that a class will be united, they say. Well, try this on for size: orientation sucked, and my class is full of people I don't care to know or see before graduation.

Furthermore, by their reasoning, we should be whoring our classes out to *any company* that will give us a \$50,000 promotional budget. Hell, we could market our classes out to The Coop, to Microsoft, or even to Playboy! I guarantee it would help bring the students together in yet another sterile moment of unity. And then "student leaders" could bask in their tawdry moment of self-promotion at even more events!

In the end, the ring does not represent my MIT experience. It'll never help me in an interview and it'll always remind me of the type of people I *hate*. So, revel in your moment of class unity, as you shell out hundreds of thousands of dollars to ArtCarved. And to those of you on the RingComm (even the Thetas), you will always sicken me.



Keep it Simple, Stupid

Stephen Form

When compared with our neighbors down the street and other top schools around the country, MIT has a certain irreverence for tradition. One might attribute this fact to MIT's sense of innovation and creativity. However, I would like to call out one tradition I feel has been tinkered with far too much in recent years: our school's fabled brass rat.

We are told that the rat is the most recognizable class ring on the planet. And why not? Its bulkiness and, some would say, ugliness, has a certain charm. Cliches aside, it instantly confers upon the wearer membership into an exclusive club. Many times I have heard of friends identifying alumni and fellow students on planes, in lines, and on the street, simply because they were wearing a brass rat.

For years, the design has remained the same: the beaver on top of a mat of sticks on the bezel, two shanks with the dome, one with the class year, and one with the name of our school. Now, with recent marketing by the ringmakers, the classes have begun a tradition of appointing ring committees to impart some individuality on their ring.

Ring committees have drawn the ire of many students for their choices. No doubt, they are under intense scrutiny from their respective classes. They will produce a design for an item that many students will wear for a lifetime. I have tremendous respect for the time they dedicate to their charge.

However, in the rush to create a unique rat for their class, many ring committees have gone overboard. Rings are now inundated with symbols representing everything from new buildings to snow days, from scientific discoveries to memorializing an old Rush and inaugurating a new one. There are many problems with this approach to ring design. I will outline only a few here.

First, these events all take place during the first year and a half of one's time at MIT. The ring committees talk a great deal about representing our experiences as classes here, yet the most fond memories we will have of MIT oftentimes will be during our junior and senior years. How can one claim that this ring will embody our experiences at this school when one is not even halfway through hell?

I will again bring up the idea of "representing our experiences as classes here." An effort is made to ensure that members of the ring committee are chosen to represent a diverse set of students at MIT. The current controversy regarding Kappa Alpha Theta notwithstanding, ring committee members certainly will never reflect the large proportion of each class that has no desire to be on such a committee. As a common example, there are two references to Rush on my rat, yet I know many of my friends who did not participate. The simple truth is that it is nearly impossible to represent the experiences of an entire class. I prefer the approach of using the agreed upon symbols of the beaver, the dome, and the seal.


Finally, I would like to bring up a note about longevity. These rings come with life-

time warranties and with good reason: these are meant to be worn or kept forever. The ring must be designed not only for ourselves now, but also for ourselves many years from now. I envision a child of mine looking at my ring one day, just as I looked at my father's many years ago. When he or she asks what all the stuff on my ring means, I do not want to have to refer back to some brochure and recite some explanation as to what that hand coming out of the river symbolizes or why there is a dove on the seal shank. Heaven forbid I should lose the brochure.

As a member of the class of 2005, I already possess a class ring and I must say that amid my disappointment with the trends in recent years, I was sufficiently happy with the design's tameness. However, ring committees are on a mission year after year to best previous efforts and provide as many symbols as possible to occupy every engravable surface of their rats.

I realize I will not stop all symbols from being placed on the ring and a return to the traditions of old is but wishful thinking. Realistically, I hope that ring committees of the future will think hard about each and every embellishment they place on their brass rat. I hope they consider how not only the members of their class will feel about each symbol now, but how they will feel ten or 40 years from now. I hope they make these rings such that all members of their respective classes would feel proud to wear one.

Stephen Form is a member of the class of 2005.




Don't guess whether you qualify for the EITC.

Know.

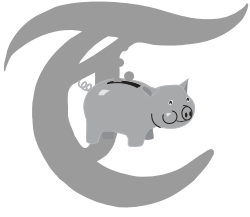
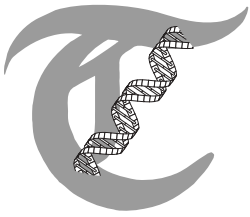
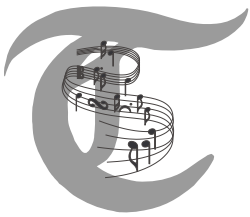
There's a lot to know about qualifying for the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC). You need to work and earn less than \$34,692. If you have children, they must meet three qualifying tests. And that's just to name a few. But the most important thing to know is you can get help figuring it all out. Visit us on the web, call 1-800-TAX-1040 or ask your tax preparer. When it comes to getting help claiming everything you honestly deserve, consider it done.

1.800.TAX.1040

 Internal Revenue Service
www.irs.gov/eitc

This space donated by The Tech

FEATURES



fun@the-tech.mit.edu

Positive Sinking – Fruity Normalcy

By Akshay Patil
FEATURES EDITOR

*Dear king of sin or are u a sinking king?
i am not writing this for you, but for the
benefit of timmy or jimmy or whatever the*



*hell his name was. i
found your rantings on
the lack of e-mail to be
quite humorous, but i
could not sit idly by
and watch jimmy or
timmy get hurt. as for
your lovely little col-
umn... i think you
should touch on
lemons, or something fun like that. or you
could rant and rave about how much fun it
is when a lady has "lucky you" written in
the zipper of her pants. let your creative
juices flow. as for jimmy or timmy i suggest
that you donate a pet penguin to his poor
little orphanage. you have spares... do you
not?*

—lady fish

Timmy thanks you, I thank you, the American people thank you. I would love to touch lemons, if only there were lemons around to touch on.

Sadly, I have no fruit near me, as I am but a humble college student. My fridge contains a water filter, an aging gallon of

milk, and specters of my last trip home. And a can of ginger ale. Don't quite remember how that got in there.

The main point is that my room is utterly devoid of fruit. Or vegetables. Or any sort of food, for that matter. It does have lots of computers though; you know what they say "A computer a day keeps the..." Uhm, I guess they don't really say anything along those lines actually.

I guess not enough studies have been done on the nutritional benefits of hardware ingestion. Pity they haven't, otherwise how else will we know our daily recommended allowance of bits?

I've never had the joyous experience of meeting a lady with "lucky you" written on her pants zipper. Of course, the problem might be that. I've never really looked... perhaps I should? Somehow I'm worried about adverse reactions I might encounter should I start requesting the right to examine other people's crotch area. Don't people tend to get a bit uppity about those sort of things? I'm not the expert on these sort of things, but I can only imagine that it's a sensitive area for most people (Ha! A pun!).

Oh, I haven't written a pun in ages. It feels good. It really does. You should try it

sometime. It's like a catharsis of all the pent up needing-to-write-a-pun emotion that just brews within you until you find yourself thinking terribly punny things to say in the wrong company; the kind of company that doesn't appreciate crotch examination... i.e. everyone but dogs. Anyways, I greatly recommend it, but let's not belabor that point, shall we?

I would donate a penguin if I had one. As of now, my penguin situation is even worse than my food shortage. Except I don't have pictures of food all around my room, haunting me from every angle. That'd be kinda weird. Not that having lots of pictures of penguins in my room is that much less weird, now that I think about it. But, I mean, come on, who can blame me? I mean, penguins. Penguins. You know what I'm talkin' about... right? Right? Oh... you don't. Ah well, normalcy is over-rated these days anyways.

Six out of five doctors recommend taking 15-20 minutes out of your day, every day, to send e-mail to sinking@mit.edu. Clinical studies have shown this lowers the chances of bitching and cancer, as well as increasing the size of whatever body part you're particularly keen on increasing. Seriously. Just ask your inbox.

It May Not Be Right But Is It Even Wrong?

The Penthouse

By Dan Scolnic

The word "penthouse" conjures two thoughts: the porn magazine and the place where rich people do things that can make it in a porn magazine.



On the sixth floor of Building 37, however, penthouse stands for something quite different. In this place where many of the great astrophysicists of our day work; the penthouse is the roof and astronomy deck. This place is where hundreds of students lined up to be when Mars was very bright. Students come to the penthouse to learn about constellations and planets. It has absolutely nothing to do with sex.

So what happened? How could a word so full of connotations of sex turn into one that inspires dreams of stargazing?

This question must be placed on a larger scale. What happened here was the evolution of a sexual idea into an academic one. This evolution takes place all over MIT. Certain changes are blatant while others, like the pent-

house, are quite subtle. And it is not just a simple replacement, but academics have taken the form of something sexual. Academics are our sexual fetish.

I know these sound like big and ridiculous claims to make. But, come on, people think of 6.001 as a more pleasurable form of self-gratification than certain more physical activities. We get turned on when we understand something. We would choose, in a second, to ace a test over getting someone's phone number. And would we ever spend a Saturday night doing something that was not sexual? No, academics are sexual at MIT.

We find learning erotically stimulating; there is nothing wrong with that. Someday I hope we can all go to a school where everyone can be open about these sexual preferences. Maybe there will be a time when we can just come out of the classroom and say "yes, we like school, and we are proud of it."

But we study in an institution where its students still try to preserve some of their dignity and normalcy. We deny that we like academics, but as much as we deny it, this simultaneous attraction holds us. No one ever sat us down and told us that MIT is the place where we are going to start finding academics sexual; it just

happened. As much as we want to deny it, we cannot. It is a part of who we are now.

This attraction is not so simple though. There is something fueling it. For such logical people, we would not keep these desires unless something was sustaining them. We have this secret hope that these academics that we find so sexually stimulating are someday going to make us attractive.

We dream that someday we will be so smart that it's sexy. It is not an impossible or illogical dream. Honestly, we just figure it's a matter of time.

After all, Richard Feynman got plenty of women. John Nash got Jennifer Connelly to fall head over heels in love with him. Lois Lane, a journalist, got the greatest superhero of all time. James Spader in "Stargate" even stayed on the planet with his girl.

It may not be likely that we will become smart enough to be sexy, but we're going to try, and we're going to keep on trying until it pays off. Someday, we are going to take a person up to the penthouse, show the person some constellations and planets, and the person won't be able to keep their hands off us. Someday, we will turn the penthouse into a penthouse.

M T T +
MedLinks
Students Promoting Health at MIT

Come to us, we can help you stay healthy!

Find your nearest medlink at
<<http://web.mit.edu/medlinks/www>>

Scratch Paper

Eggs & Sperm

By Tiffany Kosolcharoen
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

One of the most constant sources of revenue for *The Tech* are the “egg and sperm wanted” ads. I can hear you laughing. Yes, there are people willing to pay *you* to create more of you!

“Up to \$10,000 if you qualify!”

“Wanted: Intelligent, good-looking male of height 5’8” or more.”

“SAT scores of 1450 or above preferred.”



“Help our dream come true.”

When I first picked up a copy of *The Tech* as a freshman, I was astonished by how *big* these fertility ads were. They took up as much newspaper space as the SAT test prep and prom dress ads I sold for my high school newspaper. Yet, instead of encouraging us to spend, these fertility ads have the potential to pay for a needy student’s college tuition.

At first, I scoffed at the notion that anyone at all would read these ads. Wouldn’t it be ethically wrong to produce little yous who would run wild in the hands of a stranger?

If your “unknown” kid becomes a criminal 20 years down the row, wouldn’t their DNA point to yours? Or part of you? Reputations may even be ruined.

Then it hit me: there is a price to morality. Everyone has one. If we were financially broke and had no food or shelter, we would probably reconsider our egg and sperm insurance. If you were offered \$1,000, maybe you wouldn’t resort to going against your ethics. But for a hundred grand? A million?

Men, the \$1,000 per month that the sperm bank offers you could sum to \$12,000 a year. It’s better than a part-time job! No brainpower needed, great return. Ladies, this is one of life’s exceptions where you can be paid more than the guys. I have seen ads offering up to \$15,000 for eggs!

Just by you going to MIT, you’ve doubled or tripled your “value.” And what are the chances that a little you will grow up homeless when his parents paid \$10,000 to select his SAT score, height, and ethnicity from a tried-and-true genetic pool? If a family believes your genes are worth reproducing, chances are they will put your clone in a position to make an even greater contribution to society.

While we often laugh at the “gene wanted” ads, there are thousands of infertile couples who dream of kids as successful as you. Often, the Ivy League-educated couple may prefer your genes because your background is similar to theirs.

It is your personal decision to sell your genes. However, many of us overlook this “opportunity” completely. The “donor wanted” ads exist for a reason: there are peers among us who respond to them. Nobody will admit their clones are walking the world, but the success of these fertility ads at top-notch colleges across America have proven the point.

Yet, our attitudes toward egg and sperm donations will change. The next generation of parents will be able to select their child’s sex. The boundary between genetic selection and selective sperm and egg donations are blurring. Perhaps someday, parents will be able to select their child’s height, eye color, looks, etc. from a simple, online form. If you were a parent, wouldn’t you want your kid to have that head start in life?

To donate or not? While many students in dire financial situations have faced this decision, I’ve been fortunate to not need to. Yet, we should be open-minded about those among us who do. You could pay off your loans and fulfill a couple’s dream at the same time.

If all else fails in life, at least MIT gives us a choice: the sperm or the streets.

The Tech

News Hotline:

x3-1541

news@tt.mit.edu

What’s Next?

Job Market Hype (Continued)

By Ian Ybarra
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Last week, I attempted to demystify the recent CollegeGrad.com Top Entry Level Employers press release that has been touted as “Good News for the Class of 2004.” This week, I’ll point out its outlandish statements, as well as its tragic ones.

Let’s start with a quote they take from Steven Jungman, a National Recruiter at Mattress Firm Inc. “We consider graduating students to be a wealth of talent and energy who are dynamic and in-touch with current events and trends,” Jungman said.

I would highly doubt college students have their fingers on the pulse of the premium and luxury mattress market. Most students I know sleep on hollow cushions, thick as a cotton ball, with stiff springs protruding in all the wrong places. Until I visited Mattress Firm’s website, I didn’t know that luxury mattresses were even available in dorm-standard extra-long, twin size.

Next, the press release claims that CollegeGrad.com’s “Top Entry Level Employers” list will help college students. Marguerite Armas-Buseti, Director of Career Planning and Placement at Mercy College, says, “View the



CollegeGrad.com Top Entry Level Employer List as a slam-dunk way to network yourself into a job in your field.”

If anything can be called a “slam-dunk” method of getting a job, it’s certainly not this list. It’s the employment equivalent of United Airlines’ E-Fares. Since thousands upon thousands of people receive the same last-minute special deals via e-mail, my chances of reserving one are quite low. Even if luck were on my side, would I really enjoy working for Enterprise Rent-A-Car (CollegeGrad.com’s top employer — 6500 jobs)? Convincing customers to drive sedans that smell like rotting rhino carcasses seems as fun as getting stuck overnight in O’Hare International, listening to United employees telling me it was all my fault.

Sadly, reading CollegeGrad.com’s press release makes me think that these people who get paid to preach about how to get a job simply don’t get it. Brian Krueger, president and founder of CollegeGrad.com, says first, “While the market is still very competitive, the jobs are there to be found for those who take the time to do the research.”

Is it really that much easier to find jobs this year than last? CollegeGrad.com’s list accounted for over 120,000 jobs this year and over 106,000 jobs last year. Only 106,000? Oh, my!

Clearly, finding a few jobs is not the problem. After all, we are well-trained World Wide

Web searching machines. I’d bet Mr. Krueger that any MIT student could find more jobs in thirty minutes than he could apply for in three months. Those career-planning directors and job-getting know-it-alls should be talking about the truly difficult part – how to win them.

Ironically, Krueger’s book “College Grad Job Hunter” does discuss many things about how to win jobs. (The contents can be found online at <http://www.collegegrad.com/job-search/>.)

This inconsistency makes me think there might have been a coup at the company. After all, as president, Krueger should have control over the important messages released to the press.

Then I saw a “Press Info” page on CollegeGrad.com. Below a photo of Krueger, it states repeatedly that “Brian is available for interviews...” and — like a cheesy jingle — ends with, “He is highly quotable and available for your next story.” Buried in the mess is one brief sentence about his actual credentials.

Brian seems desperate. Whether he is choosing to seek different employment or is being ousted by a coup at his own company, I wonder if he’ll take comfort in CollegeGrad’s slam-dunk way to get a job at 500 companies. Make that 499. Mattress Firm will definitely ding him. He is years out of college, so his pillow talk is probably rusty.

By Danchai Mekadenaumporn
FEATURES COLUMNIST

Somehow, you’ve found yourself in a love triangle.

We’ve seen them in movies, on TV, and in books. I bet that there are more than just a couple of trashy romance novels devoted to this topic. But now you’re thinking, “This is the real world, this is me, and how the hell am I supposed to work this out?”

Depending upon your situation and exactly what point you’re at in the relationship, you have different options. Let’s take a classic fraternity love triangle: you’re a frat boy and you have a girlfriend. You have a fraternity brother. You both are in love with your girlfriend. She’s in love with you, but she’s confused about how she feels for your brother.

In that situation, you don’t really have a lot of options. I’m sorry about that. You can wait it out to see how she feels. You can approach your fraternity brother, and if he’s a decent guy, he’ll back off. But most of the weight of the decision lies with your girlfriend.

Now suppose that you’re the fraternity brother in love with someone else’s girlfriend. You have a few options here. Let’s assume that no one knows about your feelings. You could pursue your own selfish interests and try to win his girlfriend over. Of course, you’d only

do this if you hated your brother and everything he stands for or you like to make everyone around you uncomfortable.

The second option is to shut up and ignore your feelings. You’ll probably be miserable for a while, but hey, at least you have morals and stood by them. The third option is to let her know how you feel, back off and let her choose for herself. This may still cause some bad blood if your brother found out you did this; especially if she leaves him for you.

If you’re the girl, chances are you’re confused as hell. On the one hand, you’re dating a great guy, and on the other, there is another possibly great guy. You can’t seem to ignore your feelings for either of them. You might feel like a horrible person, but the truth is, you’re just human.

No one ever said that we were genetically predisposed to only have feelings for one person at a time. However, you’ll still have to make a choice, and it isn’t exactly a win-win situation for everyone. But you can take solace in the fact that you have two guys fighting over you. If at some point you notice that your feelings are stronger for one guy or another, you should probably go with that one. There’s no point leading anybody on.

My suggestion: if the relationship is going well, let it play out. The second guy should just back off if everything is going well, and if it happens that things don’t work out between the couple, hey, maybe they’ll work out for you. Just don’t do anything that will eat away at your conscience.

Sex and the SafeRide

Love Triangles

Let’s take another situation. Suppose the two men don’t know each other. In this situation, it’s every man for himself. You really have no stake in the other man’s feelings, but if you’re the guy trying to weasel in on someone else’s girlfriend, I’d say that maybe you should try to work on your ethics. At least wait until their relationship is crumbling to pieces. However, that doesn’t mean that you should go in and destroy it yourself. Just let your feelings be known, and she’ll make a decision if she wants to.

One more situation to analyze: you and your boyfriend just broke up. How long do you wait until you start dating his best friend? Depending on how long you two have been going out, how tight the friendship is, and how crazy your ex can get, it could be a while.

Technically, you’re not doing anything wrong. So technically he can’t get mad at you. But feelings are feelings, and we can’t really help those, now can we? Your best option is to wait a couple of weeks, and be totally honest with everyone. Sneaking around, denying your feelings, or denying anyone else’s feelings will only cause resentment all around. Being honest might hurt their friendship for a while, but if they’re really friends, they’ll find a way to patch things up.

Let’s hope that you don’t find yourself in any of these difficult situations. They’re not exactly fun and there’s the potential for a lot of hurt along the way. Just remember, though, people can never help the way they feel. They’re entitled to their emotions; it’s their actions that you’ll have to look out for.

T-SHIRTS

...a necessary fact of college life



- Deal direct...no middlemen
- Fast turnaround
- Award winning & computer literate art department
- Free delivery & Reasonable prices
- Most major organization logos on file for easy art work at no charge
- Full color heat transfers - no minimum!
- Web, print & graphic design

...and best of all - no boring lectures



QRST's

part of R.A.W. (Rinnigade Art Works)

ph - 617-625-3335

fx - 617-625-0404

email - info@qrsts.com

www.qrsts.com

serving the M.I.T. Community since 1989

ARTS

COMEDY REVIEW

Tough Crowd, Tough Comedy

Hammond and Quinn Put on a Decent Show for a Full Audience in Kresge

By Phil Janowicz
SPORTS EDITOR

Did you ever have that buddy who all your friends said was funny, so you immediately assumed the guy was funny before actually hearing how funny he might be? Yeah. Now I have two of them. Impressionist Darrell Hammond and “Tough Crowd” star Colin Quinn highlighted a night of comedy last Sunday, but not all of the humor came from the most obvious sources.

Darrell Hammond started the night by doing some of his best known impressions: Bill Clinton, Sean Connery, Dick Cheney, Al Gore, and Chris Matthews. Hammond related a few stories about each celebrity, including a conversation with Al Gore in which the two of them debated how Gore spoke: “Mr. Gore, you talk like this.” “No, I do not talk like this.” “Yes, you do talk like this.” “Do not.” “Do too.” “Do not infinity.” “Do infinity plus one.”

One of the best parts of his routine occurred when he told the origin of Celebrity Jeopardy with Sean Connery: “One day, I was working hard to get this one line by Connery in “The Untouchables” when Will Ferrell walked into my office with his newest impression of Alex Trebek. I immediately said, ‘Not a fan of the ladies, eh Trebek?’ I

always knew I’d go down in history for something.”

Hammond finished up his regular routine by telling a story about a time he visited Chris Matthews’ house: “I visited his house once. He was yelling the whole time, but one thing he said was so weird. ‘Tom Cruise is gonna get braces.’ I said, ‘What?’ Chris replied, ‘Tom Cruise is gonna get braces.’ I said, ‘Why is that?’ ‘Maybe something about him will be straight now.’ ‘Chris, that’s a horrible thing to say.’ ‘I know. Just kidding. He cried like a girl while I was pounding him from behind.’”

Hammond then just made the act open for the audience to yell people they wanted impressions of. I was dismayed when my request of Ron Jeremy was denied. Hammond replied, “How is Ron Jeremy on the tip of your tongue?”

Overall, Hammond was hit or miss for the entire hour with some good stuff, but he mainly relied on old material. He also seemed to rely on some extra social lubricant, if you will, to get him in the performing mood. He was definitely worth seeing, but only if you didn’t have to cancel any previous plans to do so.

Quinn started out strong by relating Kresge to an ugly Dallas church and making Catholic

jokes, justifying his jokes by pointing out how he’s both Irish and Catholic, so it’s okay. He suggested that the Catholic church “get rid of the pink robes and the kneeling” to solve its sex abuse problems.

Quinn spent close to an hour talking about all the assholes he knows, met once, or saw down the street. There were assholes who block your paper wads from going into the trashcan: “These assholes want to assure that there are only a few victories in the world and that you get none of them. After the block, you argue, ‘It was going in anyway.’ ‘But it was blocked.’ ‘Goaltending, asshole!’” He added, “Perhaps the cause of cancer is actually all these assholes.”

The problem with the Quinnian humor was that it dragged on too long. The first twenty minutes of the asshole humor was quite entertaining, but the last thirty minutes of it was the same thing. There needed to be fluctuation, undulation, vacation from the same jokes over and over and over. Unfortunately, the mesa we were stranded on provided no comedic sustenance past the lagoons on the edge. Luckily, an oasis was found near the center of the mesa when Quinn lost his place and said, “What was I talking about?” A quick-witted co-ed shouted, “You had a buddy who was an asshole.” Kresge was overflowing with guffaws. The thirst for laughter was finally quenched with a deluge of chuckles.

After the show, several people raced to the Student Center for the opportunity to



DMITRY PORTNYAGIN—THE TECH

Darrell Hammond towers over the audience as he does a requested impression in the comedy show last Sunday in Kresge Auditorium.

wrestle for free Mike’s Pastries. Then, the comedy continued when the Logs performed. Maybe mediocrity was the theme of the night because the pastries weren’t even that good. My rating scale for activities is how many dollars I want back. Seeing as it was \$12 per ticket, I want \$5.50 back to compensate for the trauma I received that night from the so-so comedy, cannoli wrestling, and Logs performance.

Granted, it’s tough to do stand-up comedy, and I probably would have done much worse than they did (anyone want to give me a chance?), so my hat is off to Hammond and Quinn.



DMITRY PORTNYAGIN—THE TECH


“I have another friend, this guy is an asshole, too...” Colin Quinn imitates yet another of his “friends” at the sell-out comedy show last Saturday in Kresge Auditorium.

**Even
EZ-er
than
1040EZ.**



Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.

 Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Changing for good.

This space donated by The Tech

Call for Nominations! 2004 Student Art Awards

LAYA and JEROME B. WIESNER
STUDENT ART AWARDS

The Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Awards are presented annually to up to three students (undergraduate or graduate), living groups, organizations or activities for outstanding achievement in and contributions to the arts at MIT. Established in 1979, these awards honor President Emeritus Wiesner and Mrs. Wiesner for their commitment to the arts at MIT. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 honorarium to each recipient.

LOUIS SUDLER
PRIZE IN THE ARTS

The Louis Sudler Prize in the Arts is presented annually to a graduating senior who has demonstrated excellence or the highest standards of proficiency in music, theater, painting, sculpture, design, architecture or film. The Prize was established in 1982 by Mr. Sudler, a performer in the arts and an arts patron from Chicago. An endowment fund provides a \$1,250 award to the honoree.

Please send nominating letters by Friday March 19, 2004 to:
Susan Cohen, Director, Council for the Arts at MIT- E15-205
cohen@media.mit.edu

March 5,
2004

COMICS

The
Tech

FUN

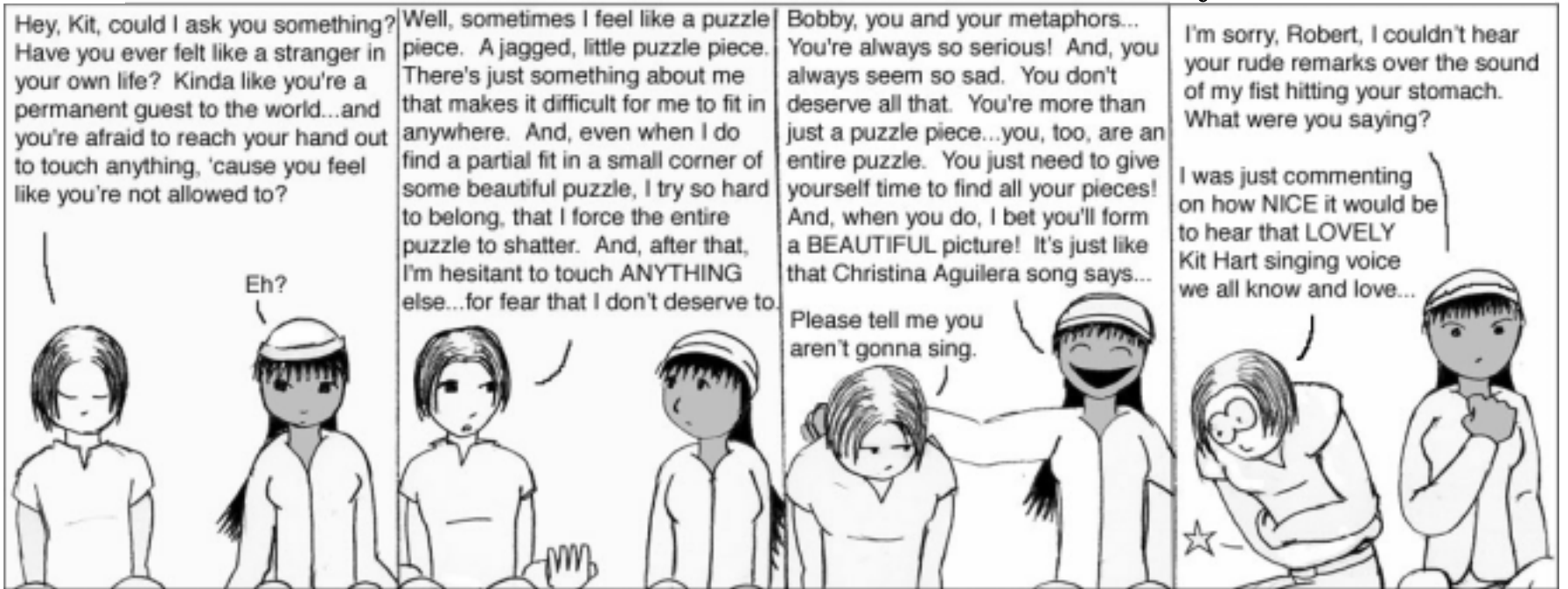
Page
9

PAGES

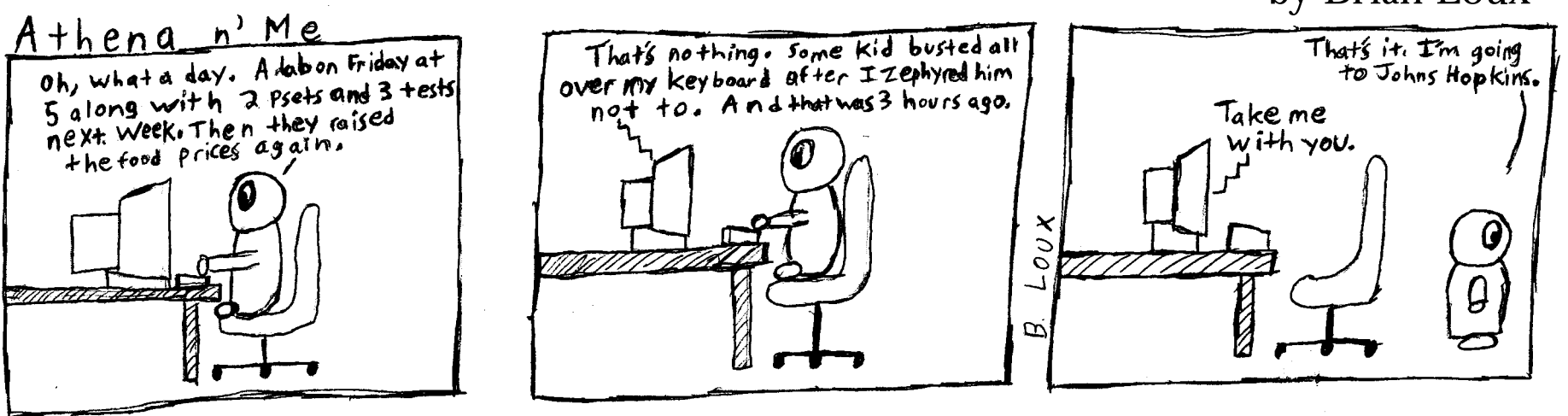
Trio

NEW! ANIMATRIX ANIMA-TRIO THEATRE: alum.mit.edu/www/emie

by Emezie Okorafor



by Brian Loux



Filler Space

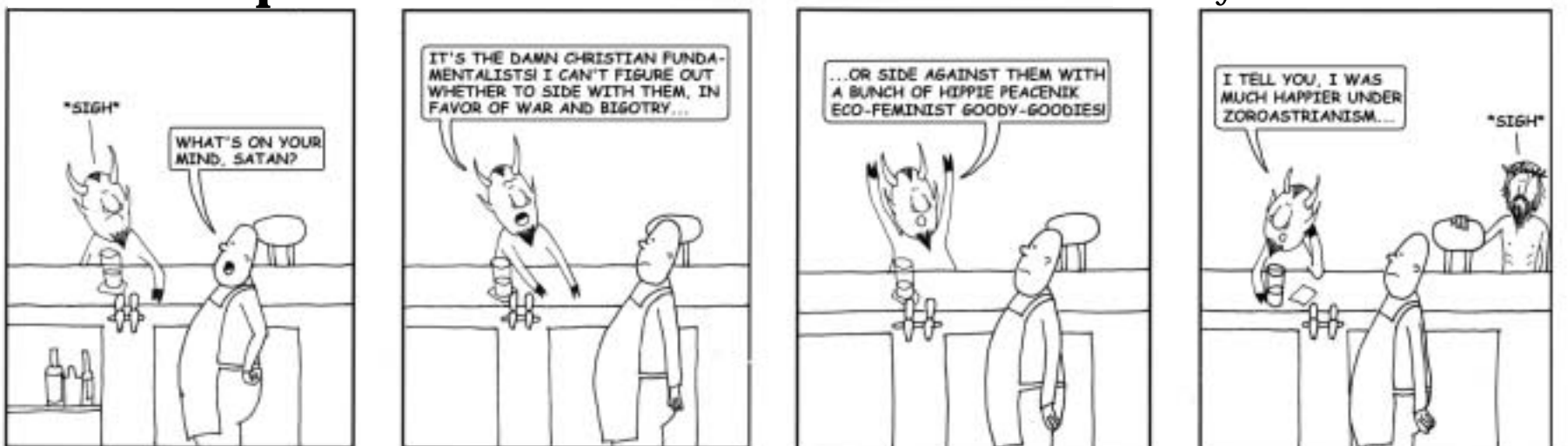
"WEATHER RETORT"

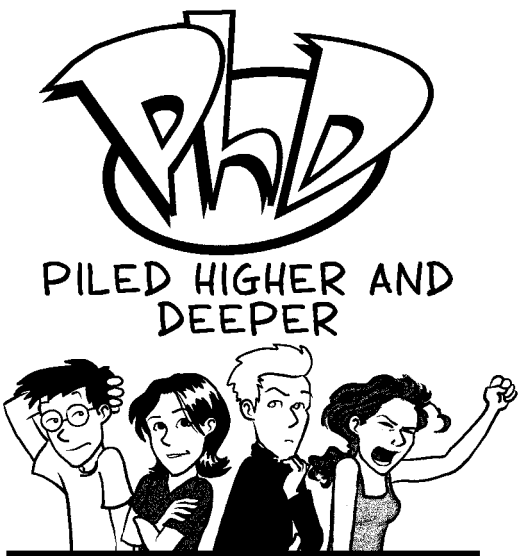
by Jason Burns



Fascist Popsicle Stand

by Saurabh Asthana





www.phdcomics.com

FoxTrot by Bill Amend

Dilbert® by Scott Adams

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 17

ACROSS

- 1 Manipulator
- 5 Faint
- 9 Vail rival
- 14 Stable female
- 15 Discharge
- 16 Cubic meter
- 17 Crow
- 18 Soft-drink nut
- 19 ___ lazuli
- 20 French stew
- 23 %
- 24 Not you
- 25 Virgil's hero
- 27 Seventh tones
- 28 Dazed state
- 30 Citified
- 33 Prison rec area
- 34 Junk e-mail
- 37 Coati's coat
- 38 Hungarian stew
- 41 Kimono sash
- 42 Burden
- 44 Haulage cart

- 45 Grade-B Western
- 47 Satellite of Neptune
- 49 Helium or argon
- 50 Set upon violently
- 52 Disentangle
- 56 Innovative
- 57 Spanish stew
- 60 Flash
- 62 List element
- 63 Les Etats-___
- 64 Run the show
- 65 Coastal bird
- 66 ___ not and say we did
- 67 Did some yard work
- 68 June honorees
- 69 Exxon, once

DOWN

- 1 Planetary shadow
- 2 Thermoplastic resin

- 3 Greek Muse
- 4 Boat race
- 5 Tea types
- 6 Secret love affair
- 7 Caron film
- 8 List-ending abbr.
- 9 Out for the night
- 10 B&O stop
- 11 West Indian stew
- 12 "Fear of Fifty" author Jong
- 13 Tree houses?
- 21 Some or any finish?
- 22 Glorifies
- 26 Figs.
- 28 Three-bean or Waldorf
- 29 TV-dinner holder
- 30 Flying saucer, briefly
- 31 Bleed
- 32 Virginia rabbit stew

- 33 Cosmonaut Gagarin
- 35 Writer Burrows
- 36 Russian space station
- 39 "Island of the Blue Dolphins" author
- 40 Stockpile
- 43 Yellow or Red
- 46 Most of the time
- 48 Rampaged
- 49 Dwarflike creatures
- 50 Wrath
- 51 Diamond of "Night Court"
- 52 Turn topsy-turvy
- 53 Wall climbers
- 54 Redacts
- 55 Will Rogers prop
- 58 Fibbed
- 59 Gillette blade
- 61 Born in France

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20				21					22		23			
24									25		26			
			27				28	29						
30	31	32				33				34		35	36	
37				38	39					40		41		
42			43		44					45	46			
		47		48					49					
50	51							52				53	54	55
56				57		58	59							
60			61			62					63			
64						65					66			
67						68					69			

An unlocked gun could be the death of your family.
Please lock up your gun.



Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

Friday, March 5

8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Evocative Objects 2004 Symposium. The Evocative Objects seminar is a series of conversations about the changing relationship between human beings and their artifacts. We have examined material culture, emotions, and epistemology through close readings of objects, ranging from 19th-century pumps and Olivetti portable typewriters to Moog synthesizers and 1950s Ford Falcons. Room: Morning session: Killian Hall, 14W-111; Lunch: Media Lab Atrium, E15, Afternoon session: Killian Hall, Evening reception: MIT Faculty Club, E52, 6th floor. Sponsor: STS. MIT Initiative on Technology and Self.

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Chenrezig Mandala @ MIT. The Mandala, or Tibetan sand painting, is an ancient art form of Tibetan Buddhism, thought to have originated in India. The MIT sand mandala will be a vehicle to promote spiritual healing within the MIT community, symbolizing compassion, acceptance and peace. Over a period of several days, millions of grains of colored sand will be painstakingly laid into place on a flat platform, forming an intricate four foot diameter diagram of the enlightened mind and the ideal world. When finished, to symbolize the impermanence of all that exists, the colored sands will be swept up and poured into the Charles River. The waters of the Charles will carry the mandala’s healing energies throughout the world. NOTE: public viewing hours vary, check web site for times. Free. Room: Simmons Hall, W79, Multipurpose Room. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Buddhist Community at MIT, ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural Diversity Events), Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. (1956) and Betsy P. Leitch Endowment, Council for the Arts at MIT.

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. – MIT/CRE Career Services Presentation. Career Profile: Real Estate Finance — John Hancock Financial Services, LJ Melody & Co., KeyBank. Free. Room: W31-301. Sponsor: Center for Real Estate.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Writers Group. New writers are invited to join our weekly Writers Group (sponsored by the Writing and Communication Center). Share a piece of your writing with other interested and supportive writers. Open to all MIT students, staff, faculty, and spouses . Free. Room: 14N-417. Sponsor: Writing and Communication Center.

12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Rainbow Lounge Open. MIT’s resource lounge for lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, and questioning members of the community offers a place to hang out, various activities, and a lending library during its open hours. Every Friday from 12-1 is a brown bag lunch!. Free. Room: Rainbow Lounge (50-306). Sponsor: lbgt@mit.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – FileMaker Pro User Group. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Services and Technology.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – ACDL Seminar. “Mesh Generation and Size Control using Level Set Methods.” Free. Room: 33-206. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – FileMaker User Group. Meeting of the MIT FileMaker User Group. Free. Room: N42 Demo Center. Sponsor: Information Systems, MIT User Groups.

12:05 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. – Mass. Free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Tech Catholic Community.

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – MCP Seminar. Association of Particulate Air Pollution with Arrhythmias Recorded by Implanted Cardioverter Defibrillators Douglas Dockery Professor of Environmental Epidemiology Harvard School of Public Health, Harvard University abstract. Free. Room: Building 54 - 915. Sponsor: Mexico City Project.

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. – AC Electro-Osmotic Flow On Polarized Electrodes. Free. Room: Building 2, Room 338. Sponsor: Physical Mathematics Seminar.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – SSL Seminar (Deb Howell). Topic: TBD. Free. Room: 37-212. Sponsor: AeroAstro.

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – MacVicar Day 2004: The Interface between Teaching and Mentoring. Prof. Richard J. Light, Kennedy School of Government and The Graduate School of Education at Harvard University, discusses lessons learned about teaching and mentoring. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: MacVicar Fellows, Office of the Dean for Undergraduate Education.

3:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – 7th Latin American Conference. What is the future of Latin America? With new trends in overseas manufacturing and trade in a highly global economy, what will the role of Latin America be in the 21st century? Formerly outsourced jobs to the region are now being transferred to India and China. What will this do to the Latin American economy? These issues among others will be discussed and debated by leaders from government, business and academia at the two-day conference. Free. Room: Wong Auditorium. Sponsor: MIT Sloan Public Web Site.

4:00 p.m. – BCS Colloquium - B.J. Casey, Ph.D. Talk Title: “Behavioral, Imaging and Genetic Studies of Cognitive Control.” Free. Room: E25-117. Sponsor: Brain and Cognitive Sciences. Hosted by Sue Corkin.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – PSFC Seminar. Dynamics of the Lower-hybrid Drift Instability in a Thin Current Sheet. Free. Room: NW17-218. Sponsor: Plasma Science and Fusion Center.

4:00 p.m. – Opening Reception: Student Origami Exhibition. Free. Room: Wiesner Student Art Gallery (Student Center 2nd floor). Sponsor: MIT Japan Program. Office of the Arts Special Programs, the office of Erik Demaine.

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – Two-Lifts, Quasi-Ramanujan Graphs and a Converse to the Expander Mixing Lemma. Reception at 3:30 p.m. in Room 2-349. Free. Room: 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

6:00 p.m. – Shabbat Services & Dinner. Celebrate Shabbat. MIT Hillel’s three religious communities hold Shabbat services at 6 p.m. (Conservative, Orthodox, and Reform) A community Shabbat dinner follows at 7 p.m. Cost for dinner only. Room: Religious Activities Center, Bldg W11. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – GCF Large Group Fellowship Meeting. Come for worship, a stimulating talk, fellowship and snacks. Free. Room: W20-306. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship, GSC Funding Board.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Colombian Colloquium: The Function of Quota Laws in Colombia. Isabel C. Jaramillo is an SJD candidate at Harvard Law School. She graduated from Los Andes Law School, where she was a full-time professor before coming to Harvard. She is the co-author of “La Jurisdiccion Especial Indigena en Colombia.” Her articles include: “La Critica Feminista al Derecho,” “El Hogar, Publico o Privado?,” “Instrucciones para Salir de los Derechos,” and “El Liberalismo frente a la Diversidad Cultural.” Her doctoral dissertation focuses on continuity and change in family law. Free. Room: 61 Kirkland St. Sponsor: UA Finance Board, Colombian Students Association. David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University.

6:15 p.m. - 6:50 p.m. – CCC Friday Dinner. Meet us for dinner before Real Life Boston in the Student Center’s Alpine Bagel. Free. Room: Alpine Bagel. Sponsor: Campus Crusade for Christ.

6:55 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – CCC Real Life Boston. Did you know that there are 42 campuses in the greater Boston area? Well, wouldn’t it be cool to fellowship with Christians from all these schools? You can! Campus Crusade for Christ and Park Street Church have a city wide college ministry. Real Life is a group of students from colleges all over Boston. The Campus Crusade for Christ Fellowships from all these schools get together to worship God, seek His will, and grow in our faith. MITCCC meets at 77 Mass Ave at 6:55 p.m. to take the #1 bus as a group. All are welcome! Free. Room: Student Center Steps. Sponsor: Campus Crusade for Christ.

7:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. – MIT Anime Club Weekly Showing. The MIT Anime Club shows the best of both recent and classic Japanese animation. Tonight, we will be continuing with “12 Kingdoms,” about a young woman swept away to another world; “Kino’s Journeys,” a series of near-Borgesian tales of a fabulous world, as seen through the eyes of Kino, a traveller, and her sentient motorcycle, Hermes; and we will finish up with some episodes of the delightful comedy/parody series, “Dokkoida,” which is too comically weird to summarize briefly. Showings are open to the public. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT, UA Finance Board.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Something’s Gotta Give. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – FREE Shabbat Dinner. Join us for a Free kosher Shabbat dinner. Free. Room: W11, Religious Activities Center, Main Dining Room. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Palestinian Awareness Week, Day 5. Panel Discussion: ISM volunteers Ben, Renae, Tom, Mike and Joe Documentary: A Caged Bird’s Song.Live witnessing of restrictions on students and professors at Bir Zeit, violating the right to education. Free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: ASO.

7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Charlotte Sometimes Movie Screening. A film by Eric Byler Nominated for two 2003 Independent Spirit Awards and hailed by Roger Ebert as a breakthrough for Asian American filmmakers. Charlotte Sometimes is a mysterious and erotic romance exploring the kinds of love from which there are no names or clear arrangements. Starring Michael Idemoto, Jacqueline Kim, Eugenia Yuan, Matt Westmore Refreshments will be provided. Free. Room: 4-237. Sponsor: Association of Taiwanese Students, MIT.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Mandala Dialogue: Conversations on Compassion, Acceptance, and Peace. Free. Room: Sidney and Pacific Dormitory, Multipurpose Room. Sponsor: Counterpoint, Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Buddhist Community at MIT, ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural Diversity Events), Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. and Betsey P. Leitch Endowment, Council for the Arts at MIT.

7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – ACF Large Group meeting - Why do we Believe? This event is especially sensitive towards people who are curious about learning more about Christianity. After Event: Q & A with Pastor Um + refreshments. Free. Room: McCormick Brown Living Room. Sponsor: Asian Christian Fellowship.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Bible Study. Is there more to life than grad school? We believe the answer is “YES!.” Come study the word of God with us. There will be dinner provided and games afterward. Free. Room: 1-150. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia Graduate Division, GSC Funding Board.

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – Wings of Desire. \$3. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. – MIT Wind Ensemble. Frederick Harris, director. “A Symphony for Wind Ensemble” featuring Persichetti’s Symphony No. 6; Bach’s Contrapunctus 3, 4, & 6 from “The Art of Fugue; Shostakovich’s Prelude, Op. 34, no. 14 (transcription); Percy Grainger’s Children’s March. \$5. Room: Kresge Auditorium. Sponsor: Music and Theater Arts Section.

8:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – La Rumba. The best latin party of the year. Performance by Casino Rueda, Live Latin Band and Puerto Rican Food. \$5. Room: La Sala de Puerto Rico. Sponsor: UA Finance Board, Student Life Programs, Office of Minority Education , Mes Latino, ARCADE.

10:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. – Something’s Gotta Give. Free. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

10:30 p.m. - 12:30 a.m. – Wings of Desire. \$3. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC.

Saturday, March 6

8:00 a.m. – Varsity Rifle MAC Championship. Free. Room: MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in du Pont Athletic Center. Sponsor: Physical Education, Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

8:30 a.m. - 4:50 p.m. – Latin Conference. A group of business and government leaders from Latin America will

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

be together at MIT Sloan School of Management to debate issues related to the region, and to discuss how Latin countries have great potential to re-insert themselves in protagonist roles on the 21st Century and beyond. Free. Room: Wong Auditorium, Building E51 (Tang Center), Sponsor: Brazilian Club @ Sloan. Club Latino at MIT Sloan.

8:30 a.m. - 4:50 p.m. – 7th Latin American Conference. What is the future of Latin America? With new trends in overseas manufacturing and trade in a highly global economy, what will the role of Latin America be in the 21st century? Formerly outsourced jobs to the region are now being transferred to India and China. What will this do to the Latin American economy? These issues among others will be discussed and debated by leaders from government, business and academia at the two-day conference. Free. Sponsor: MIT Sloan Public Web Site.

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Chenrezig Mandala @ MIT. The Mandala, or Tibetan sand painting, is an ancient art form of Tibetan Buddhism, thought to have originated in India. The MIT sand mandala will be a vehicle to promote spiritual healing within the MIT community, symbolizing compassion, acceptance and peace. Over a period of several days, millions of grains of colored sand will be painstakingly laid into place on a flat platform, forming an intricate four foot diameter diagram of the enlightened mind and the ideal world. When finished, to symbolize the impermanence of all that exists, the colored sands will be swept up and poured into the Charles River. The waters of the Charles will carry the mandala’s healing energies throughout the world. Free. Room: Simmons Hall, W79, Multipurpose Room. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Student Life Programs, Buddhist Community at MIT, ARCADE, Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. (1956) and Betsy P. Leitch Endowment, Council for the Arts at MIT.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Depleted Uranium Weapons: Toxic Contaminant or Necessary Technology? An expert scientific panel will discuss the environmental impacts of depleted uranium. Free. Room: MIT Room 34-101. Sponsor: Student Pugwash USA, The MIT Chapter of, Center for International Studies, Nuclear Engineering, Physics Department, The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT, Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Program on Human Rights & Justice, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Students for Global Sustainability.

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Graduate Christian Fellowship Bible Study. Currently studying the gospel of Luke. Free. Room: Edgerton Apt. 221. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Isshinryu Karate Workout. Traditional Okinawan Karate in a Small Club Environment. Free. Room: DuPont Exercise Room. Sponsor: Isshinryu Karate-do at MIT.

2:00 p.m. – Artists in Dialogue. Bruce Bemis in conversation with Mark Lapore, an experimental filmmaker and professor of filmmaking at the Massachusetts College of Art. His work has been included in the film programs of the 2002 Whitney Biennial, the 2000 and 2002 New York Film Festival, and the 2003 Third Text + Media Program, Hong Kong, among others. Free. Room: List Visual Arts Center (E15). Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Build Your Own Mandala. Build your own Mandala out of colored rice grains. A supervised activity appropriate for children aged 5 and up. Children younger than 12 must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Free. Room: Simmons Hall Cafeteria. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Student Life Programs, Buddhist Community at MIT, Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. and Betsey P. Leitch Endowment, MIT Council for the Arts.

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. – Depleted Uranium Weapons: Toxic Contaminant or Necessary Technology? An expert scientific panel will discuss the health impacts of depleted uranium. Free. Room: MIT Room 34-101. Sponsor: Student Pugwash USA, The MIT Chapter of, Center for International Studies, Nuclear Engineering, Physics Department, The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT, Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Program on Human Rights & Justice, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Students for Global Sustainability.

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – Depleted Uranium Weapons: Toxic Contaminant or Necessary Technology?. An expert panel will discuss the policy implications of depleted uranium use. Free. Room: MIT Room 34-101. Sponsor: Student Pugwash USA, The MIT Chapter of, Center for International Studies, Nuclear Engineering, Physics Department, The Technology and Culture Forum at MIT, Laboratory for Energy and the Environment, Program on Human Rights & Justice, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Students for Global Sustainability.

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Antakshari Dinner. A charity event to raise money for schools in India. \$7 for dinner. Room: Hulsizer Hall, Ashdown. Sponsor: AID-Boston, Sangam.

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Megillah Reading. Come hear the story of Esther and celebrate the holiday of Purim. Free. Room: W11, Religious Activities Center. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT, UA Finance Board.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Veronica Guerin. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – The 4TH Annual MIT Haitian Cultural Night. There will be Food, Art show (with four of the best Haitian Artists in Boston), A great guess speaker, High School Students Performance, Folklore Dancing Performance(New Jersey Dance Group called Explosive Phenomena), Poetry And of course, DJ Deville will be there all night spinning Konpa, Zouk, dancehall, Hip Hop, and R&B. \$5. Room: Lobdell, MIT Student Center. Sponsor: Student Life Programs, MIT Haitian Alliance, Office of Minority Education. Council for the Arts, School of HASS.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Patrol. Travel to strange new classrooms. Meet interesting, unusual people, and kill them! Patrol is a high-action game of live combat with rubber-dart guns. Shoot your friends, then watch out as they try to take their revenge. Free. Room: 36-115. Sponsor: Assassins’ Guild, MIT.

8:30 p.m. – Winterfest 2004. The Seventh Annual Winterfest. Food and Cultural Festival. Come join the Harvard Taiwanese Cultural Society for an exciting night of fun and delicious home-cooked food at Quincy Dining Hall. A feast of about 20 authentic Taiwanese dishes will be served including scallion pancakes, pan-fried dumplings, and egg rolls. This night-market style event will also feature more than 10 booths of games such as mahjong and DDR and hands-on arts and craft opportunities. We will also be selling BOBA for some boba lovin’! Don’t miss out on this event! \$5 in advance (at Box Office), \$7 at the door. Room: Quincy Dining Hall, Harvard. Sponsor: Association of Taiwanese Students, MIT. Harvard Taiwanese Cultural Society.

10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Veronica Guerin. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Sunday, March 7

8:00 a.m. – Varsity Rifle MAC Championship. Free. Room: MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in du Pont Athletic Center. Sponsor: Physical Education, Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Chenrezig Mandala @ MIT. Free. Room: Simmons Hall, W79, Multipurpose Room. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Student Life Programs, Buddhist Community at MIT, ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural Diversity Events), Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. (1956) and Betsy P. Leitch Endowment, Council for the Arts at MIT.

9:00 a.m. – Varsity Pistol USA Shooting Open. Free. Room: MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in du Pont Athletic Center. Sponsor: Physical Education, Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. – Mass. Free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Tech Catholic Community.

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Asha General Meeting. General meeting of Asha-MIT, the MIT chapter of “Asha for Education,” a voluntary student organization which aims to catalyze socioeconomic change in India through education of underprivileged children. Free. Room: 4-253. Sponsor: ASHA-MIT.

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. – Ashdown Sunday Brunch. Sunday Brunch. Free. Room: Ashdown House, Hulsizer Room. Sponsor: Ashdown House, GSC Funding Board.

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Mass. Free. Room: Mass. Sponsor: Tech Catholic Community.

2:00 p.m. – Gallery Talk. Free. Room: List Visual Arts Center (E15). Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. – Purim Party. Games, prizes, and Free food! Costumes are encouraged but not necessary. Free. Room: Lobdell - Student Center. Sponsor: Hillel, MIT, UA Finance Board.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Mass. Free. Room: MIT Chapel. Sponsor: Tech Catholic Community.

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Something’s Gotta Give. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – International Folk Dancing (participatory). International folk dancing. Teaching and beginners’ dances from 8 to 9 p.m. A mixture of all skill levels from 9 to 11 p.m. Our repertoire includes dances from Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Greece, and others) as well as other parts of Europe and the rest of the world (Israel, France, Russia, even England and the US). Note: We will move to La Sala de Puerto Rico (on the second floor of the Student Center) if it is available. MIT/Wellesley students. Free; suggested donation \$1 from others. Room: Student Center room W20-491. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

10:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – Veronica Guerin. \$3. Room: 26-100. Sponsor: LSC.

Monday, March 8

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Earth System Initiative Symposium. Is... Was... Might Be... Perspectives on the Evolution of the Earth System. \$200. Free for MIT community or any students. Room: Little Kresge. Sponsor: Earth System Initiative.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. – Chenrezig Mandala @ MIT. Free. Room: Simmons Hall, W79, Multipurpose Room. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Committee on Campus Race Relations, Student Life Programs, Buddhist Community at MIT, ARCADE (Assisting Recurring Cultural Diversity Events), Visiting Scholars @ Simmons Hall. William R. (1956) and Betsy P. Leitch Endowment, Council for the Arts at MIT.

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Image Based Lighting for Physically Accurate Simulations. Spring 2004 Building Technology Lecture Series. Free. Room: 7-437. Sponsor: Building Technology Program.

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. – Nuclear & Particle Theory Seminar. Cracking the Unitarity Triangle: B Physics at the B factories. Free. Room: Center for Theoretical Physics, building 6, third floor seminar room. Sponsor: Laboratory for Nuclear Science.

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. – Evolution and Political Economy of Skin Colour Variation. STS Colloquium. Free. Room: E51-095. Sponsor: STS.

4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Conformally compact Einstein manifolds and conformal invariants. Free. Room: 2-143. Sponsor: Differential Geometry Seminar, Mathematics, Department of.

4:00 p.m. – Spring Biological Chemistry Seminar Series, Debparah Perlstein, MIT Chemistry, Stubbe Lab. Room: 6-120 Title: “Yeast Ribonucleotide reductase: in vitro and in vivo” Deborah Perlstein, MIT Chemistry, Stubbe Lab Spring Biological Chemistry Seminar Series Isshinryu Karate Workout. Traditional Okinawan Karate in a Small Club Environment. Free. Room: Rockwell Cage Half-Court. Sponsor: Isshinryu Karate-do at MIT.

7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Graduate Christian Fellowship Bible Study. Studying 1 John. Free. Room: Ashdown Lobby. Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.



A mourner holds a leaflet before a service commemorating MIT Junior Daniel Dong Sung Mun. Mun's family, friends, and fraternity brothers filled every seat in the chapel, and continued on to form a ring along the walls long after the last seat had been taken.

Mun Memorial

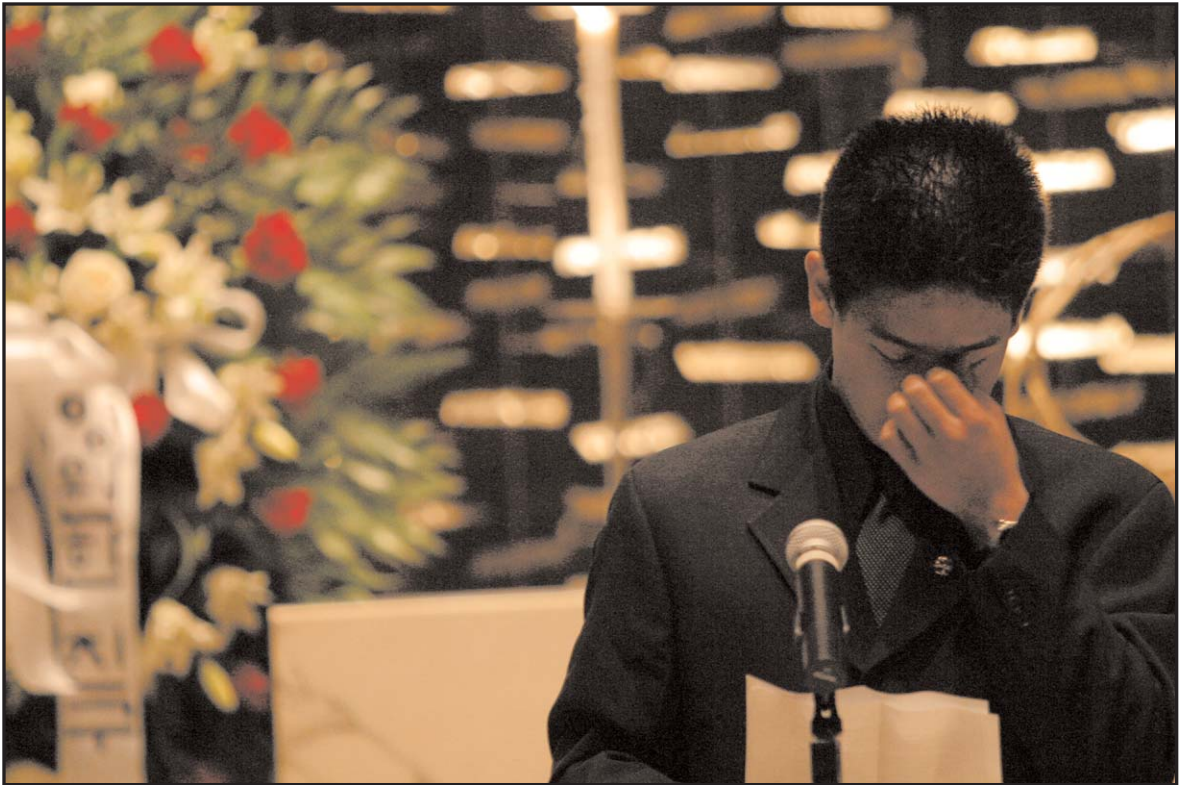
On Saturday, Feb. 28, the body of Daniel Dong Sung Mun was found in the Charles River. Mun, a Junior, disappeared on December 1, 2003, and had not been seen since. Wednesday night a memorial service was held in his honor at the MIT chapel. Mun's family and fraternity brothers turned out to remember him.



Members of Oori, MIT's Korean drum group, perform as images of Mun are projected onto a screen. The drum placed in front of the performers was Mun's instrument, and was left unplayed.



One of Mun's fraternity brothers signs the book of remembrance. Upon entering the chapel, each person was given a rose.



Mun's former roommate Dexter Ang '05 breaks down during the eulogy. "Dong was full of love for all the world and for all of us," he said.



Mun's brother tearfully embraces his mother as Mun's father and an MIT officer look on. Mun's family led a procession from the chapel onto Massachusetts Avenue following the service.

Service Held at Chapel

in '05 was
ne night in
at, a memorial
family, friends,

Mourners walk to the spot on the Harvard bridge where Mun's body was recovered. The MIT Police temporarily halted traffic on the bridge in order to clear the way for the procession.

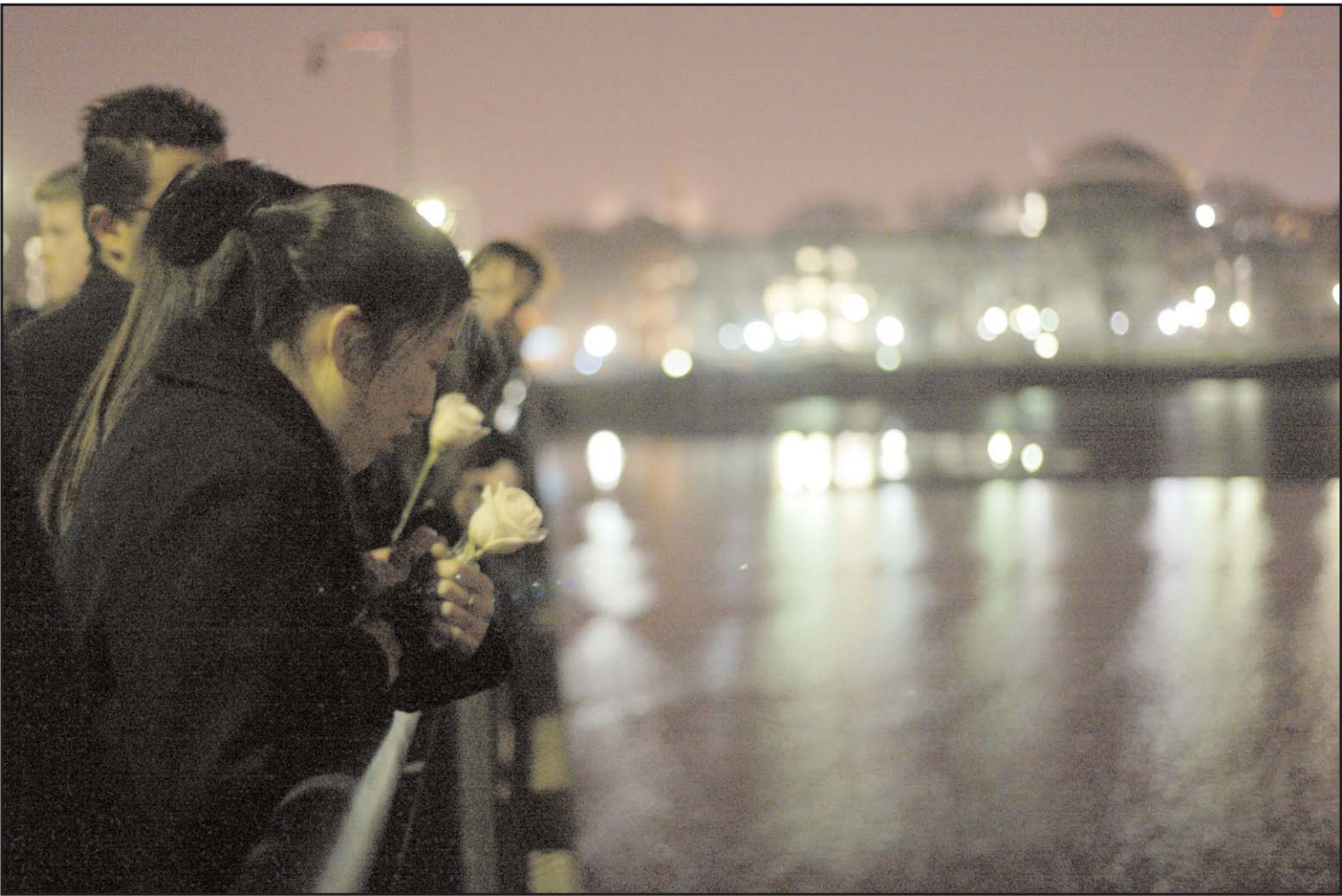
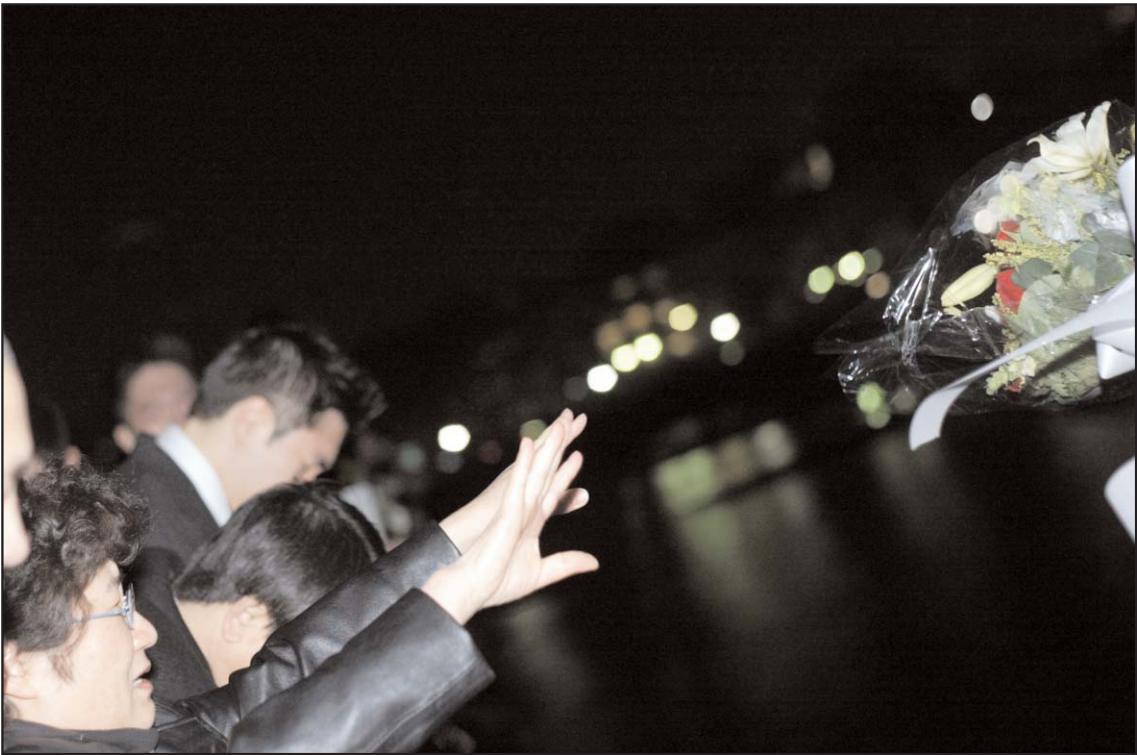


MIT Senior Associate Dean for Students Robert Randolph escorts Mun's brother across the bridge. Members of Mun's family flew in from across the country in order to attend the memorial service.



Photography by Daniel R. Bersak—The Tech

Mun's mother throws a bouquet of flowers into the Charles river near the spot where her son's body was found. Her bouquet, along with that of Mun's father, slowly drifted away from the bridge.



Mourners on the Harvard Bridge toss their roses into the river. The procession waited in silence as each person threw their rose over the railing into the water.



MIT police
Massachu-

The 2004

Friday, March 5

African

MIT Caribbean Dance
7:30-9:30pm

Caribbean

Kresge Little Theater

Cultural

Sponsored by the MIT African Student Association
and the MIT Caribbean Club

Mocho Moves
Show

Tommy Doyle's
Irish Pub and Restaurant

One Kendall Square
In front of Kendall Cinema

25% Off All Food Purchases
with MIT I.D.

617-225-0888

LBGT & Questioning
Support & Discussion
Group for MIT Students

Facilitated bi-weekly support and
discussions for all LBGT and Questioning
undergraduate and graduate students –
Not just for coming out.

Safe and confidential!

Groups will meet on the
Second and Fourth Mondays of each month

4:00 – 5:30pm in Room 5-104

For more information, contact James Collins
jmcollin@mit.edu 617.253.4861
OR visit <http://mit.edu/lbgt/support>

Sponsored by [LBGT@MIT](#) and CSS

TOWARD PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE
IN THE MIDDLE EAST

A THREE PART SERIES EXAMINING THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY
IN THE QUEST FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Panel #3

ISRAEL: PROGRESS TOWARD
A MORE CIVIL SOCIETY?

As a struggling democracy in the Middle East, Israel faces many
challenges in sustaining a civil society

• What steps has Israel taken to ensure a civil society?

• How does Israel address the challenges that arise?

A moderated panel featuring:

Zeidan Atashi, Israeli Oruzi Arab, Former Member of Knesset

Hagai El-Ad, Executive Director, Jerusalem Open House,

LBGT Community Center

Yohanan Plesner, MPA Program, Harvard's Kennedy School

Moderated by:

Jeff Robbins, President, WorldBoston

Thursday, March 11, 2004 at 7:00 PM

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

77 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 4-163, Cambridge

For more information please call, 617-457-9654

Sponsored by MIT Hillel, MIT Student Union, American Friends of the Jerusalem Open House and the
Israel Campus Roundtable, co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council Chapter Boston,
Combined Jewish Philanthropies and Hillel Council of New England, and including AUSA, American Jewish
Committee, Anti-Defamation League, CHMERA, Consulate General of Israel to New England, The David
Project, Haima/Leumi, Haima/Falshon, Jaka/Mayan Center and USDO Hagatoma.

Other programs in the series include:

Panel #1:
Civil vs. Uncivil Society: What Are The Consequences for Peace?
Featuring: Richard Linnard, Boston University; El Sagor, Brandeis University; Avner
Kings, UMass Boston
Thursday, January 29, 2004 at 7:00 PM • Boston University
725 Commonwealth Ave., Room 222

Panel #2:
Peaceful Coexistence: What's Taking So Long?
Featuring: Fred Cheddy, Founder, Syrian Reform Party, United Arab Emirates; Author of The
Road to Wadi Salim, Juman Marwan, Founder, Palestinian Media Watch
Thursday, February 12, 2004 at 7:00 PM • Harvard University, Emerson 105

SPRING BREAK '04
Don't Get Left Behind!

SAVE \$100 PER ROOM
Clip & Send
or
Use Code:
PRMMG
Online

www.sunsplashes.com

1.800.426.7710

C+C
R+R

We're looking for proposals for events, activities, and educational
programs to enhance racial and cultural relations at MIT. All members
of the MIT community – students, faculty, and staff – are welcome to
apply.

Proposals are reviewed on a monthly basis. Applications are to be
received by the first school day of any month from October to May.
Applicants will be notified of a decision by the middle of the month.
For more information or an application, contact the Committee on
Campus Race Relations at 3-1706, or racerelations@mit.edu.

Another reason
you should never schedule morning
classes.

Laser Rock Shows. A sight and sound
spectacular. Featuring tunes from Zeppelin,
Floyd, and more. Easy access from the
Green Line. Info and tix at mos.org

Media Sponsor:

WYTH 5

Museum of Science
REGISTRATION

LATE-NIGHT LINKER:

Someone who downloads and watches hit movies
at all hours, just because they can.

THE NEWEST WAY TO GET HIT MOVIES: DOWNLOAD THEM.
STUDENTS GET 25% OFF* ALL MOVIES AT COLLEGE.MOVIELINK.COM

Movielink™
movies on demand

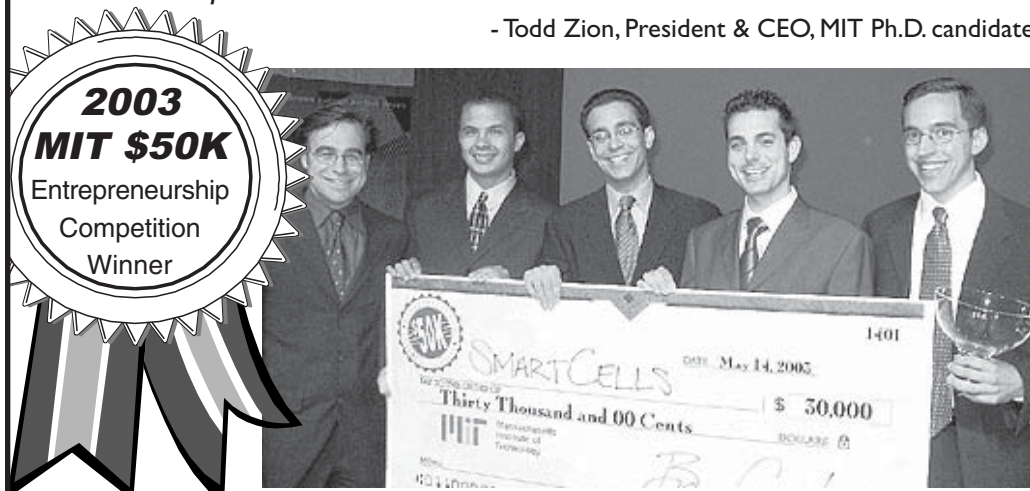
*Terms and conditions apply. See website for details.

Does your start-up venture need room to grow? Join other MIT success stories.

SmartCells, Inc., winner of the 2003 MIT \$50K Entrepreneurship Competition, has developed a polymer-based dosing technology for auto-regulating the release of a therapeutic based on the plasma concentration of a molecular indicator. Its lead application, SmartInsulin for diabetes, has a market potential of over \$5 billion. The team includes a tenured professor and Ph.D. candidate from MIT's Chemical Engineering department (the founders) and two world-renowned diabetes experts (scientific advisors).

"Cummings was an easy choice. They are one of the only firms in the Boston area offering high quality lab space in sizes that start-ups like ours can afford."

- Todd Zion, President & CEO, MIT Ph.D. candidate



To learn more about special programs catering to growing companies, contact Mike Pascavage at 781-932-7024. From 200 to 200,000 square feet!

Cummings Properties

cummings.com

- Free design services
- Financing available
- Medford, Woburn, Beverly & more!
- In-house construction
- Expansion space guarantee

MacVicar Day 2004

*friday, 5 march
3:00-4:30 pm, room 6-120*

*the interface
between*

TEACHING and MENTORING:
*six lessons
from up the river*

Richard J. Light

The Walter H. Gale Professor at
Kennedy School of Government and
The Graduate School of Education
at Harvard University

Sponsored by the Margaret MacVicar Faculty Fellows Program
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MIT

Harvard To Increase Low-Income Support

Help for families making under \$60,000

By Ray C. He
STAFF REPORTER

Harvard College announced a new financial aid policy on Feb. 28 that would increase the average financial aid award for students whose family incomes are less than \$60,000.

According to a March 1 announcement by Harvard President Lawrence H. Summers '75 in the Harvard University Gazette, students whose family incomes are less than \$40,000 will no longer pay the average \$2,300 contribution that results from financial aid calculations. Additionally, Summer said that students with family incomes between \$40,000 and \$60,000 will see an average decrease of \$1,250 in parental contribution.

"What we're doing is paying closer attention to lower and moderate income families," said Sally C. Donahue, director of financial aid at Harvard College. "We think that families under that threshold simply don't have the resources to help with college expense."

This change in policy is part of an overall trend of increase in financial aid received by students. "Harvard College's nearly \$80 million in scholarships for undergraduates in the coming year represents a 49 [percent] increase over the past six years when inflation rose by only 13.5 [percent]," the announcement said.

The income limits will increase relative to inflation and other factors, Donahue said. "Every year we go back in and take a look at everything, the cost of attendance goes up, our scholarship budget goes up by quite a bit."

MIT will continue current system

In light of the change at Harvard, MIT Student Financial Services plans "to continue doing what we do best and achieving success in recruiting, enrolling, and graduating one of the most diverse student bodies with significant numbers of first-generation college students," said Elizabeth M. Hicks, Executive Director of Student Financial Services.

"We think that what Harvard has done should be commended because what they're doing is sending a very strong message to the American public that institutions

like Harvard and MIT are doing a lot to ensure access to post-secondary education," she said.

"In the last five years, our undergraduate scholarship budget has increased 64 percent, while the consumer price index increased 13 percent," she said. Undergraduate tuition has increased 18.4 percent in the past five years, from \$25,000 in 1999 to \$29,600 in 2003.

Even with the net decline in MIT's endowment, Hicks said that the financial aid office will still meet student need. "It's a commitment of this institution that we make use of endowed financial aid funds and other sources of funding to support undergraduate scholarships," she said.

Even though student financial services requires the free application for Federal Student Aid and the College Scholarship Service Profile to apply for financial aid, "we use our own methodology to compute financial aid eligibility," said Hicks.

No change in Harvard's general method

Donahue said that Harvard's new initiative will not change the college's general method for calculating financial aid.

"We continue to use the federal methodology and the institutional methodology," Donahue said. "We'll remain a need-based system," she said.

The change comes from student focus groups and feedback on the financial aid system in the fall, she said.

"Even though the formula may come up with an expected contribution from their parents, their parents couldn't come up with this," and the students would end up paying for the family contributions, she said. Under the new plan, financial aid packages will still contain a student contribution.

The new policy is not completely bound to the \$40,000 and \$60,000 limits, she said. "I wouldn't call it a cutoff, I'd call it a guideline."

"There's a fair bit of professional judgement that takes into consideration other things that come into play, such as medical expenses, roofs falling in, you name it," she said.

Eat Broccoli

SPERM DONORS NEEDED

California Cryobank, the world's leading reproductive tissue bank, is looking for healthy males, in college or with a college degree, to become a part of our anonymous sperm donor program. As a donor you will be compensated up to \$900 per month. In addition you will:

- receive a free comprehensive health and genetic screening.
- experience a minimal time commitment with flexible hours.
- help infertile couples realize their dreams of parenthood.

For more information or to see if you qualify call 1-800-231-3373 ext. 41 or visit us on the web at www.cryobankdonors.com.

CALIFORNIA
CRYOBANK, INC.
REPRODUCTIVE TISSUE SERVICES

1-800-231-3373 Ext. 41
www.cryobankdonors.com

Live Eager to Perform at MIT

Spring Weekend, from Page 1
Groups have produced many hits

The name Live “came from a dream where Chad Taylor [lead vocals] saw a ‘live’ on a hat,” said Live drummer Chad Gracey in an interview with *The Tech*. From those humble beginnings, Live got their first record deal in 1991 and have been churning out hits ever since such as “Lightning Crashes” and “All Over You.” The band’s music is an “intense, passionate, basic rock ‘n roll” said Gracey.

Live has been “resting currently” said Taylor, but they intend to tour this summer starting with a mini-tour of the north east covering Cambridge, New York, and Atlantic City.

Live is excited about performing at a small venue such as MIT, Gracey said. “Small venues are more intense. Everyone is more

close together and the music is more intimate.”

Slick Rick, born as Richard Walters and better known as Doug E. Fresh’s vocal partner in the Get Fresh Crew, has made a career on such hits as “The Show” with Fresh and his own 1999 album “The Art of Storytelling.” Slick Rick has frequently appeared in songs with other artists such as Jam Master Jay, Aaliyah, Outkast, and The Rock.

Other events planned for weekend

In addition to the Concert, other Spring Weekend Events include the International Fair, the Alpha Chi Omega Lip Sync, and barbeques in Kresge Oval and Sidney-Pacific Graduate Residence.

Wronski said the committee is in the process of planning other events which may include a movie night under the auspices of the Lec-

ture Series Committee, a carnival on Kresge Oval, a Habitat for Humanity work day, and dance seminars.

Students react positively to choice

Several students expressed excitement about the lineup for the concert.

“I’m pretty psyched about Live playing here” said Kartik S. Lamba ’04, “and I hope they play a lot of their older music.”

Gregor B. Cadman ’06 was also excited by the news: “That’d be awesome. I really like Live. When can I get tickets?”

While tickets are not yet on sale, Bhooshan said she expects the committee’s Web site (<http://web.mit.edu/spring/www/>) to go live and vend tickets within two weeks. Prices will be \$10 for MIT students and \$12 for non-MIT students.

MIT
Emile Bustani Middle East Seminar
Presents
Professor Nadim Rouhana

Visiting Associate Professor of International Diplomacy
The Fletcher School
Tufts University

**“THE PALESTINIAN RIGHT OF RETURN:
REFUGEES AND THE PEACE PROCESS”**

Tuesday, March 9, 2004
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
E51-095
70 Memorial Drive
Cambridge
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Sponsored by the Center for International Studies

Depression is a serious threat to anyone that has a brain.

Depression is a suppression of brain activity that can strike anyone. It can make life unbearable, but it is also readily, medically treatable. And that's something you should always keep in mind.

≈1 Cause of Suicide
**UNTREATED
DEPRESSION**
<http://www.save.org>

Public Service message from SA'VE (Suicide Awareness/Voices of Education)

This space donated by *The Tech*

**Even
EZ-er
than
1040EZ.**



Introducing TeleFile from the IRS. If you are single and filed Form 1040EZ last year, you can file your tax return in ten minutes by phone. Anytime. Check your tax booklet for information.

TeleFile
It's free. It's fast. It works.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Changing for good.
This space donated by *The Tech*

Solution to Crossword

from page 10

U	S	E	R		P	A	L	E		A	S	P	E	N
M	A	R	E		E	M	I	T		S	T	E	R	E
B	R	A	G		K	O	L	A		L	A	P	I	S
R	A	T	A	T	O	U	I	L	L	E		P	C	T
A	N	O	T	H	E	R		A	E	N	E	A	S	
				T	I	S		S	T	U	P	O	R	
U	R	B	A	N		Y	A	R	D		S	P	A	M
F	U	R		G	O	U	L	A	S	H		O	B	I
O	N	U	S		D	R	A	Y		O	A	T	E	R
			N	E	R	E	I	D		G	A	S		
A	S	S	A	I	L		U	N	R	A	V	E	L	
N	E	W		O	L	L	A	P	O	D	R	I	D	A
G	L	I	N	T		I	T	E	M		U	N	I	S
E	M	C	E	E		E	R	N	E		L	E	T	S
R	A	K	E	D		D	A	D	S		E	S	S	O

Customized Microsoft Access Databases

- Import data from Excel, text, other sources
- Create ad-hoc queries & reports
- Develop end-user applications
- Write documentation and train users

Contact: Ramy Bodner 617-509-9123
Email: rbodner@flash.net
Web: www.bodnerdatabase.com

Friday Nights @ the coffeehouse

THIS FRIDAY, MARCH 5TH:
ACOUSTIC BREAK

FEATURING:

OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS

FOOD!

FREE!

PRIZES & GIVE-AWAYS

TYPHOON FERRI

10PM @ STUDENT CENTER COFFEE HOUSE



Combat tested.

join@the-tech.mit.edu
W20-483, x3-1541

Grads Still See Policy Problems

Maternity, from Page 1
Students see problems with policy

The current policy is part of a two year effort initiated by the Academic Research and Careers Committee, a committee made up of members of the GSC, said R. Erich Caulfield, president of the GSC. Caulfield said the ARCC submitted a draft of the policy to administrators last year.

Last year's ARCC chair, Christiane Collins G, wrote the initial version of the Childbirth Accommodation Policy and said that the policy does not do an adequate job of addressing the needs of women students who choose to give birth while in graduate school. Collins said she was concerned that the new policy does not waive tuition for self-supported students during the time of the accommodation period, even though the academic clock stops. According to the Childbirth Accommodation Policy, tuition for eight weeks costs about \$6,533.

"We initially agreed self-supported students would not have to

pay tuition," Collins said.

Krishnan Sriram G, 2001-2002 chair of the ARCC, who has been working with Collins on the policy, shared that reservation.

"My concern is that students would have to pay tuition during the time of the leave according to the policy," Sriram said. "If tuition is waived during that period, it would make life much easier for them."

Colbert said the policy was originally proposed to waive tuition, but "it just wasn't financially feasible" given the current financial state of the Institute. He said it is "certainly possible to revisit the policy."

Collins said she had other concerns about the policy, including the non-guarantee of on-campus housing after the accommodation period, post-accommodation period expectations and support, and the stipend amount, which could be more or less than what the student was receiving before the accommodation period. "For the ninety percent of students who had nice professors" and let them take time off without having to take a medical

leave, "this is a huge step backwards," she said.

Folkert said that he would expect about eight to nine people a year to take advantage of the new policy.

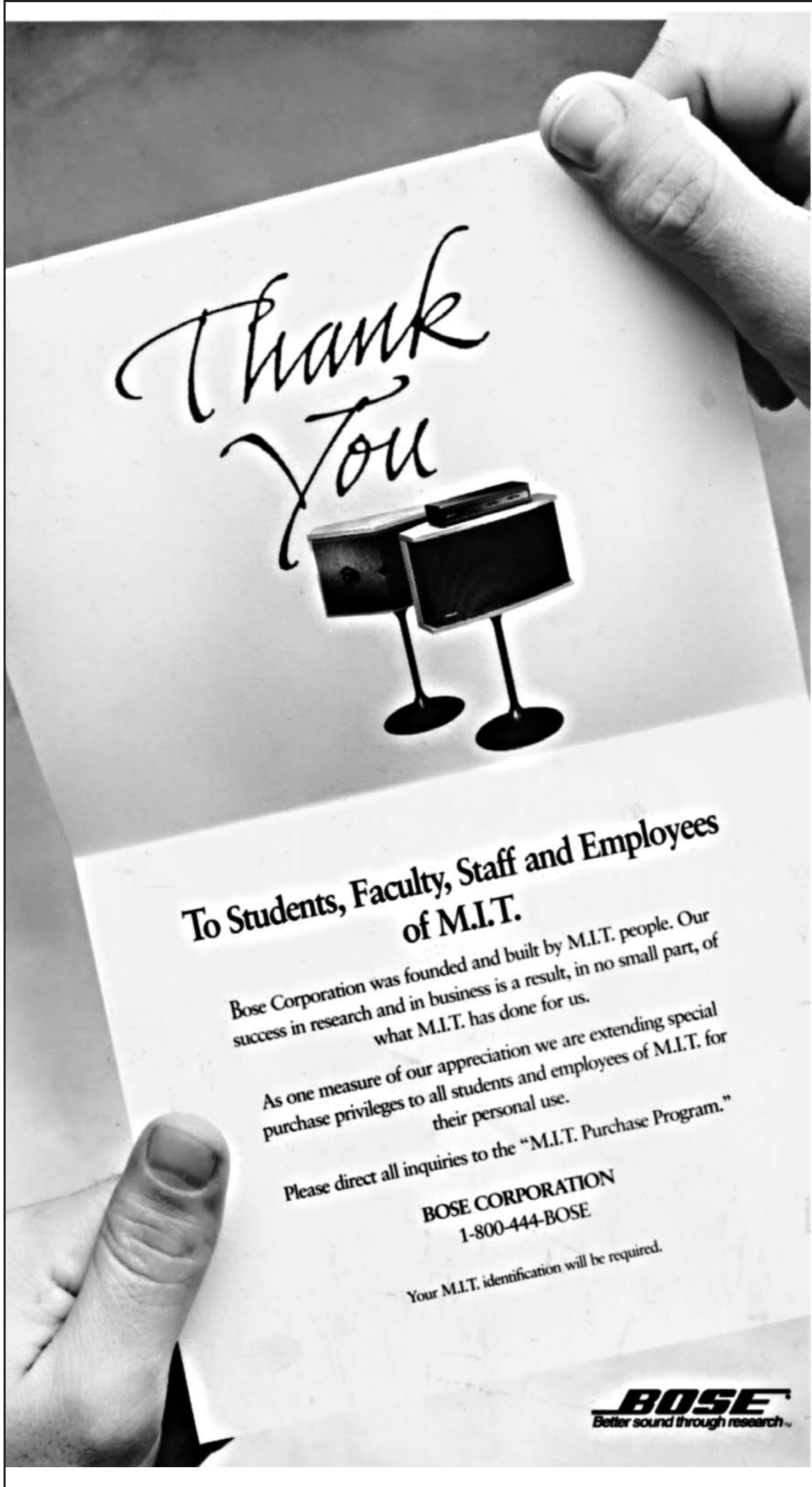
Other universities develop policies

MIT is one of the first universities to have an institute-wide childbirth accommodation policy for graduate women students, said Colbert. "As far as I know, no other peer institute has anything like this," Colbert said.

According to the announcement from Brown and Clay, "Harvard has begun to develop a childbirth leave policy for women students" and Stanford's electrical engineering department currently has a policy that grants women students several weeks of leave for childbirth.

Colbert said that he views the new policy as a signal from the Institute that it shares "a commitment to support" women graduate students.

"It is great that the policy is there," said Collins, "but it still has a long way to go."



Thank You

To Students, Faculty, Staff and Employees of M.I.T.

Bose Corporation was founded and built by M.I.T. people. Our success in research and in business is a result, in no small part, of what M.I.T. has done for us.

As one measure of our appreciation we are extending special purchase privileges to all students and employees of M.I.T. for their personal use.

Please direct all inquiries to the "M.I.T. Purchase Program."

BOSE CORPORATION
1-800-444-BOSE

Your M.I.T. identification will be required.

BOSE
Better sound through research™



Not getting your child all her shots is like leaving her out here alone.

At least 11 shots by two. How sure are you?
Questions? Call 1-800-232-2522.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 

This space donated by *The Tech*

EGG DONORS NEEDED

www.circlesurrogacy.com
800-287-1713

**New Master's and Ph.D. Programs
Affiliated with the University of Chicago**



We are **The Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago**, whose mission is to achieve international impact through world-class research and education in fundamental Computer Science and Information Technology.

We are now accepting applications for programs leading to Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science. Located on the University of Chicago campus, our students will be able to cross-register for University of Chicago courses. This is a new program and generous scholarships are available in the Master's program for the first few years while the program is being established. Ph.D. students receive full support without teaching requirements. The Ph.D. program is highly selective—only a small number of positions are available.

For our On-Line Application, further information, or to contact us, please refer to our website: <http://tti-c.org>.

Equal Opportunity Institute

Organized by:
Civil & Environmental Engineering Student Association (CEESA)
Career & Professional Development Committee



Department of
Civil & Environmental Engineering
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Civil & Environmental Engineering Career Fair

Open to all students!

**Tuesday, March 9
1:00pm - 5:00pm
Bush Room (10-105)**

CDM
Fay, Spofford & Thorndike
GeoSyntec Consultants
The Haskell Company
Jacques Whitford

Linbeck
Menzie-Cura & Associates
Peace Corps
Shawmut Design and Construction
Turner Construction

check out our website for more info, linked from
<http://web.mit.edu/civenv>



16 person HALO



Saturday

March 6th

Building 1



First



Floor

9 pm until



Midnight



Brought to you by ClubZ

New Fellows Discuss Teaching

MacVicar, from Page 1

personal contact with students and said that teaching to them is a passion rather than a job.

“Undergraduate education and teaching are something I’ve been striving to do a good job in,” said Darmofal, who said that he will try anything to help students learn. One of Darmofal’s teaching strategies is to assign homework before he discusses the topic in class so that class time can be utilized for more meaningful discussions of subtleties not emphasized in the textbooks.

Leeb, who teaches 6.115, the Microcomputer Project Laboratory, described his work not only as a job, but a hobby as well. He is currently developing a project in medical optical coherence tomography with students in his laboratory classes.

“It’s what makes me want to get up in the morning,” he said.

Students and faculty who wrote letters of nomination for the fellows agreed that enthusiasm was very important. One student wrote, “it was Prof. McCants’ enthusiasm and analytic approach that made her class the best Humanities course I have taken to date.”

“In an ideal world, the highest praise a professor could receive would be to be known as a

‘McCants,’” another wrote. McCants has created and taught many new courses at MIT.

Student interaction important

All of the new MacVicar Fellows stressed the need to interact with students on a personal basis.

Jackson said that a good teacher should “work hard at getting students emotionally engaged.” Jackson creates workshops in her classes specifically designed to involve students.

One student wrote in a nominating letter that in her classes “there was never silence during discussions, every student in the room voluntarily participated.”

Leeb said that he tries to make students feel comfortable in his classes, posing as well as encouraging questions.

For Jerison, the rewards of teaching come from working with the students. “What really inspires me is that I have an audience of students who can really appreciate challenging and interesting new problems,” he said.

While lecturing 18.02, a large class composed primarily of freshmen, Jerison tries to remain in contact with students, spending large amounts of time creating new problems for them to solve.

The new MacVicar Fellows have made plans for using their

annual allowance for the next ten years as part of their awards.

Jackson said she planned to make Spanish translations for two of her books. Leeb plans to use the award to purchase laboratory equipment for new student projects.

Program honors UROP founder

MacVicar Day and the Faculty Fellows Program are named in honor of the late Professor Margaret MacVicar, who was MIT’s first Dean for Undergraduate Education and founder of the Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP). She had passed away in 1991 at the age of 47. The first MacVicar Fellowships were awarded in 1992.

In addition to receiving financial support over the ten year term of their awards, MacVicar Faculty Fellows participate in six luncheons per year to discuss improvement of undergraduate education.

A presentation open to the public will take place this afternoon from 3 to 4:30 p.m. in 6-120 following a lunch at which Provost Robert Brown will announce the MacVicar Fellows. The presentation will feature Professor Richard J. Light from Harvard University, who will speak on “The Interface between Teaching and Mentoring.”

www.BostonInsurance.com

Online Auto, Home and Renter’s Insurance Rates

Vellucci Insurance Agency, Inc.

657 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02141
Tel: 617-492-4150

"TWO THUMBS WAY UP!"

Ebert & Roeper

WINNER
GOLDEN GLOBE
BAFTA

WINNER
BEST FILM
SUNDANCE
2004



TOUCHING THE VOID

A KEVIN MACDONALD FILM

DO NOT READ THE BOOK FROM UK FILM COUNCIL FILM FIVE PBS

WWW.IFCFILMS.COM/TOUCHINGTHEVOID

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS NOW PLAYING!

LANDMARK'S KENDALL SQ. ONE KENDALL SQ., CAMBRIDGE 617-499-1996	LOEWS COPLEY PLACE 100 HUNTINGTON AVE., BOSTON 1-800-FANDANGO #731	LANDMARK'S EMBASSY 16 PINE ST., WALTHAM 781-893-2500
--	--	--

STUDENT TRAVEL & BEYOND

Backpacks? Hostels?

3 Cities in 4 Days?

This ain't your parents' travel agency... it's yours.

London.....	\$245
Rome.....	\$245
Amsterdam.....	\$245
Brussels.....	\$245
Miami From	\$740
» 6 nights	
Vegas From	\$646
» 6 nights	

Fare is round trip from Boston and prices are per person. Subject to change and availability. Package accommodations based on double occupancy. Tax not included. Restrictions and blackouts apply. Fares are valid for students and youth under 26.

BOOK IT BEFORE THE THRILL IS GONE.

STA TRAVEL

www.statravel.com

W20-024 Stratton Student Ctr.
(617) 225.2555

ONLINE >> ON THE PHONE >> ON CAMPUS >> ON THE STREET

U.S. SPACE EXPLORATION POLICY:

WHAT IS THE MIT STUDENT'S PERSPECTIVE?

STUDENT TOWN MEETING

ON THE U.S. SPACE VISION

VOICE YOUR OPINION.

MON., MAR. 8, 7 - 9 PM

35-225

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

WHAT DO YOU WANT NASA AND THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON U.S. SPACE EXPLORATION POLICY TO KNOW?

SUPPORTED BY STUDENT PUGWASH, MARS GRAVITY, MASSACHUSETTS SPACE GRANT, AND SEDS

Your birthright.
Our gift.

Israel



Registration for the summer trips begins March 11

Yael Muhlrads
Sophomore
Tufts University
Political Science
and Psychology
Alpha Phi

“Basically, there are no words to describe what this trip has done for me. It is just something you have to do, and experience.”

- 18-26?
- Jewish?
- Never been on a peer-group trip to Israel?
- See Israel for **FREE**

israelprograms@cjp.org
Other Israel trips available



TAGLIT - תגלית
birthright israel
www.birthrightisrael.com



COMBINED JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES
www.cjp.org



The Tech is in your future



join@tt.mit.edu



The 4th Annual *MIT Haitian Cultural Night*

Saturday March 6, 2004 • 7:00PM-1AM

MIT Student Center • Lobdell Room • 84 Massachusetts Avenue • Cambridge, MA 02139

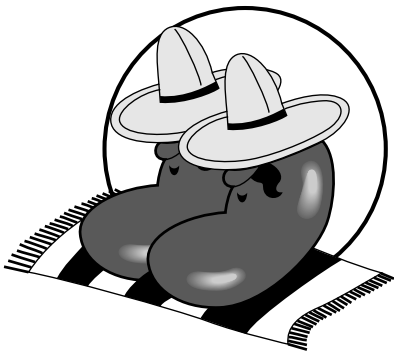
There will be **Food,**
Art Show, with 4 of the best Haitian Artists
in Boston, A great **Guest speaker,**
High School Students **Performance,**
Folklore Dance Performance
by New Jersey Dance Group, Explosive
Phenomena, **Poetry AND MORE.**

And of course, **DJ Deville**
will be there all night spinning
Konpa, Zouk, Reggae, Hip Hop, and R&B

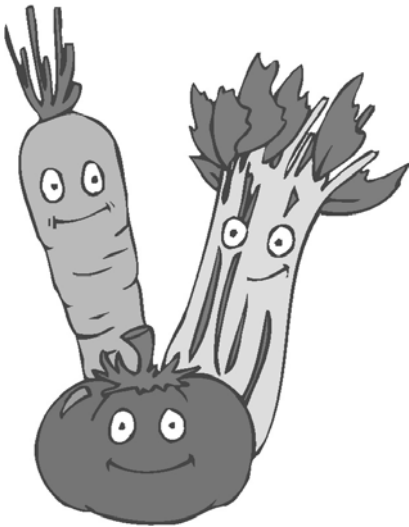
\$5 donation

Sponsors: MIT Haitian Alliance, Student Life Programs, Office of Minority Education
Council for the Arts, School of HASS

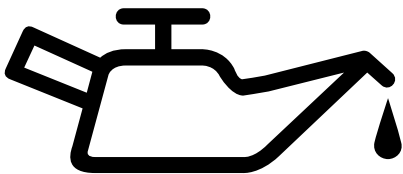
Have Some Fun with Clip Art



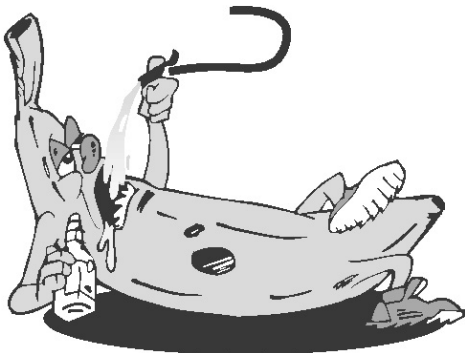
**Join *The Tech's*
Production Department**



**(we have man-eating
pineapples)**



join@tt.mit.edu



SPORTS

Checking for Charity: Phi Cup Games Start

By Brian Chase
SPORTS EDITOR

In the movie “Miracle,” homage was paid to the fiercely competitive Boston hockey tradition. This weekend, MIT is displaying its own little slice of that tradition for a good cause: the Fourth Annual Phi Cup Charity Hockey Tournament, run by the Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority and held in the Johnson Ice Rink.

Sixteen teams in two divisions (checking and non-checking) have entered. Their entry money and the money raised form the bake sale AEPHI is holding concurrently this week goes to the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation and Chaim Sheba Medical Center. This Sunday will be the Championship rounds, featuring the two best teams in both divisions.

The competition for the tournament started on Monday, and the action continued Tuesday. As of this article, three games in the checking division have been played, and one in the coed non-checking division. Fraternity teams made up a large part of the entries, but somewhat surprisingly, not all of them made it past the first round. For example, in the first non-checking game of the tournament, PBE played Burton

United, a team consisting of mainly Burton-Conner, but also Baker and Simmons players. Burton United crushed PBE 10-0. On the flip side, in the checking division game played Tuesday, the Delta Tau Delta team soundly beat the Next House team 6-0. Both games were played hard, and there were some spectacular saves, especially by the losing goalies, who generally had more to contend with.

The AEPHI representatives at the games said they expect to raise around \$1,500 this year, up from the over \$1,000 they raised last year. Unfortunately, they weren’t able to schedule quite as many games this year because of the extra practice time needed for the new Women’s Varsity Hockey team.

Attendance to the games is free for all spectators, and everyone is encouraged to come to support the various MIT teams in contention. Spectators may also get a chance to win prizes (read: food) awarded between periods. In addition to the tournament, AEPHI also has a charity bake sale going on in Lobby 10 and sell T-shirts at the games. Whoever wins, the games Sunday will definitely display some fierce competition and good hockey.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Mar. 6

8 a.m., Varsity Rifle MAC Championship, MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in DuPont

Sunday, Mar. 7

8 a.m., Varsity Rifle MAC Championship, MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in DuPont
9 a.m., Varsity Pistol USA Shooting Open, MIT Pistol and Rifle Range in DuPont



MIT Women’s Track Breaks Records in Relays and Long Jump

By Martha Buckley
TEAM MEMBER

At the All New England Championships last Friday and Saturday at Boston University, the MIT women’s team entered in all three relays that were contested: the distance medley relay, the 4x800 meters, and the 4x400. Smashing the institute records in the distance medley and 4x800 and running a season’s best in the 4x400, the MIT women certainly strove to be all they could be.

Inspired by the cheering of members of the MIT women’s team, who painted “Go Tech” on their stomachs, the Distance Medley — Julia

C. Espel ’05, Chidinma C. Obi ’05, Andrea Staid ’07, and Martha W. Buckley ’04 — clocked a 12:21.99, smashing the old institute record in the event by over ten seconds. The MIT women qualified to compete in the ECAC’s by over 20 seconds but narrowly missed the national provisional qualifying standard of 12:20.

The MIT women’s 4x400 team of Christine Fanchiang ’07, Brita Mittal ’07, Rachel M. Niehuus, and Chidinma C. Obi ’05 continued MIT’s strong performances, clocking a season’s best of 4:16.48.

Coming into the 4x800, the MIT women’s team of Staid, Alisa P. Lehman ’05, Elizabeth R. Walker ’06, and Buckley had their eyes set on the varsity record of 9:56.42.

Although two of the team members had not yet run sub-2:30 in the 800, the MIT women hoped to average a few seconds under 2:30 pace to break the MIT record with the help of freshman phenom Staid, who holds the institute record in the 800 (2:24). However, the MIT women surpassed everyone’s expectations, clocking a 9:46.88, dropping that institute record by almost ten seconds as well. Both Staid and Buckley’s splits were under 2:25, which is quite amazing considering that no one in the history of the MIT women’s indoor team had run sub-2:25 in the 800 until this season. Lehman dipped below 2:30 for the first time in her running career to run a 2:27 split and Walker ran a solid 2:31.

MIT’s individual events were characterized by record-breaking performances as well. Institute records in both the horizontal jumps were broken. Nalini Gupta ’03 leaped 17’ 3 1/4” to surpass the MIT record in the long jump by a quarter inch and placed 8th in stiff competition. With a jump of 36’ 7 3/4” Chinwe P. Nyenke ’04 smashed the school record in the triple jump by almost three inches. Nyenke’s jump qualifies her provisionally for nationals for the first time in her track career. In the pole vault, Catherine A. Tweedie ’04 jumped a personal best of 11’ 9 3/4” and placed fifth. Tweedie’s ability to consistently vault in the high 11’s gives her a solid shot at All-American at nationals, which will be held in

Wisconsin in two weeks.

This Friday and Saturday, a small contingent of the MIT women’s team will be traveling to Bowdoin to compete in the ECAC’s. At the ECAC’s the MIT women will make final efforts to qualify for nationals. Currently four members of the MIT women’s team are qualified provisionally for nationals. Tweedie’s height of 11’9” currently ranks her sixth for pole vault in Division III. Buckley’s time of 17:35.99 in the 5000 currently puts her in the top ten on the nationals list. Adrienne M. Irmer ’04 and Nyenke are currently ranked in the weight throw and triple jump, respectively, and hope to improve on their marks at the ECAC’s.

Daniel Snyder: The Big Baby With the Big Bucks

By Yong-yi Zhu
SPORTS COLUMNIST

Think back to when you were young. What did you do to get everything you want? Some of us begged; others wailed; and there were even a few that threw tantrums. But those days of being a kid have long since passed. Or have they? Are we in an age where adults can control themselves and not want everything in sight? Can we say that we act responsibly, especially with our money?

With those questions in mind, I turned to sports owners for a chance to find some big babies with big bucks. Dan Snyder is a perfect example of such a person. He is a businessman at heart, having started the company Snyder Communications, which was sold for \$2.3 billion. In 1999, Dan Snyder wanted the Washington Redskins and won by bidding \$800 million, the most that’s ever been paid for an NFL team. He outbid John Kent Cooke, brother of the late Jack Kent Cooke, the previous owner of the Redskins. Snyder was not about to let money stand in the way between him and his football. That’s the first sign that Dan is a big baby.

With the Redskins came their stadium, which was at the time named Jack Kent Cooke stadium. Cooke had just recently died and never left the organization to anyone; that’s why the team went up for auction. It seemed appropriate that the stadium would be named after its late owner, especially since he funded the construction. Snyder of course, had no sympathies for

Cooke family, and immediately sold the naming rights to FedEx for \$207 million. FedEx Field was born.

The moment Snyder got the chance, he went out and bought whatever free agents he knew of. Jeff George went to DC. Bruce Smith went to DC. Even Andre Reed went to DC. He then expected his perfectly molded team to be perfect. That’s when things went wrong. The big baby could not handle the losing involved in a team that did not fit. Jeff George and Marty Schottenheimer, the coaches of the Redskins at the time, did not fit with one another. Andre Reed performed a little differently from his days in Buffalo. And Bruce Smith was forced to play every down, instead of just his favored third downs. The main problem was that they were not winning and the boss was not happy.

So, everyone went out the door and in came a new group of guinea pigs. Steve Spurrier was the largest hire. Snyder felt as though he had won a huge victory wooing the former Florida coach away from all the Florida teams. Of course Spurrier’s offense was going to produce just like it did in Gatorville, right? Majorly wrong. Winning again became a problem and after two losing seasons, Spurrier himself quit the organization.

When Spurrier got off, Snyder once again got back on the team. He spent a ton of money this time rehiring Joe Gibbs. Once again, they threw top money for him, just like Snyder did with Spurrier, just like Snyder did with Schottenheimer. Again, Snyder hopes the results to

be different.

In addition to hiring Gibbs, Snyder bought the services of Mark Brunell despite already having a starter quarterback. Patrick Ramsey was not at all happy with the signing of Brunell because he started the entire last season. Ramsey is still in contract with the Redskins, but having Brunell at the helm, Ramsey will not get much playing time. Oh well, as long as Dan Snyder can get what he wants, right?

And just this week, Snyder traded his top corner, Champ Bailey, along with a second round draft pick to Denver for Clinton Portis. Granted Portis is a great running back, but nobody expected the contract that Snyder suddenly came up with: \$50.5 million for eight years, which makes Portis the highest paid running back in the league’s history. Portis was happy, considering he was not even expecting a new contract. But as long as Snyder feels like shopping, might as well cash in, right?

So I guess I must say that Snyder is a pretty big kid who wants everything he can get his hands on. Fortunately for him, he has that kind of money, although this may be unfortunate for the Redskins players. After all, if he is spending the money to get the good players, he expects great results. In fact, he might just be the next coming of Jerry Jones, the Cowboys’ owner, who also micromanaged his team to a tee. He may even be George Steinbrenner-esque. I’m not sure how Snyder will respond if Gibbs is not up to par, but whatever it may be, I’m glad I’m not his employee. I guess I just enjoy working for adults, not kids.



ANDREW THOMAS—THE TECH

MIT’s Alicia Volpicelli ’00 checks an opponent in BU’s own zone in first period action last Wednesday night.



ANDREW THOMAS—THE TECH

Goaltender Adriane J. Faust ’98 watches the play develop on Wednesday night at Johnson Ice Rink. The MIT Women’s Club Hockey team played a tight game against Boston University’s club team, winning 4-3 in overtime.